LYNCHING RECORD 1923

According to records compiled by Department of Records and Research, Tuskegee Institute twenty-eight persons were lynched in 1923, twenty-nine less than the fifty-seven for 1922. Thirteen of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law,seven from ajils and six from officers outside of jails.

There were forty-six instances in which officers prevented lynchings. Four women, three white and one black, were among those thus saved. Six of these preventions were in Northern States and forty in Southern States. In thirty-seven of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmentdd or other precautions taken. In nine instances armed force was used to repel mobs. in eight instances persons charged with being in lynching mobs were brought to trial. Of the fifty-two thus before the courts only two were sent to a penitentiary.

Of the twenty-eight lynched in 1923, twenty-six were Negroes and two were whites; two of the former were women.Seven or one-fourth of those put to death were charged with assaults or attempted assaults on women. One of the victims was burned to death; one was put to death and then the body was burned.

The offenses charged against the whites were participation in strike depredations,1; being taken as a Negro,1; The offenses charged against the Negroes were: Murder,3; murderous assault,2; assault on women,6; attempted assault on women,1; killing officer,2; wounding officer,2; no charge reported,3; assisting man charged with assault on women to escape,1; resisting posse, searching for man,1; cattle stealing,1; trying to act like white man and not knowing his place,1; insulting woman,1; peeping in window,1; striking man in quarrel,1.

The nine states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each State were as follows: Arkansas,2; Florida,8; Georgia,4; Louisiana,1; Mississippi,8; Missouri,1; Oklahoma,1; Texas,2, Virginia,1.

COMPILED BY MONROE N, WORK, DIRECTOR
DEPARTMENT OF RECORDS AND RESEARCH
TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE, ALA.

Lynchings—1923
Cases of.

Alabama

1557

LYNCHING AT HELENA; THREE DEAD

5/5/23

By Birmingham Reporter

Helena, Ala., May 1, 1923.—(Special to The Reporter.)—Mr. John Morton King, a miner at Helena, Alabama, a man of 65 years of age, was lynched at his home at Helena Monday evening. The trouble started Monday afternoon when Mr. King attempted to collect his pay check for Monday's work. Having suffered some assault, it is believed, from some official at the Pay Office, he went away and returned still insisting on his pay check which was a rule of the company's it is stated to issue to each employee for services rendered for that day. When Mr. King returned it is believed that another assault was made upon the old veteran, and the shooting began. One white man, it is said, was killed outright and a mob began to assemble and they came from far and near and most every sheriff from three counties gathered around the little cabin where Uncle King had barricaded himself and they fired continuously upon the little shack, Mr. King returned the fire at the posse and killed two outright and wounded two others, both of whom were sheriffs.

How Did They Capture The Old Man?

Two thousand white men, most of whom were loaded with ammunition and dynamite crowded around the house and coming near it fired with high powered guns and threw dynamite which soon put the little building on fire, and until the walls were practically consumed, the old veteran remained in his place firing as best he could and came out only to be lynched my two thousand, many of whom were firing at him from all sides and many directions.

Mr. King had lived at Helena for twenty-five years and had built a reputation as a substantial and peaceable citizen and was respected by both races. The general opinion is that he suffered an assault at the hands of someone which was intolerable and when he made his second plea for his pay check that he was again assaulted and resented it. It is stated that more than 2,000 rounds of ammunition were fired and the old man only used a shot gun, a pistol and rifle in his defense. Mrs. King and her daughter were spirited away and it is th[illegible] that they have not yet known the outcome of the husband and father.

Much excitemena was abroad and Wednesday the little village had come almost to normal and most of the men were back at work. The white men killed were not more than 25 years old. Mr. King was 65 and was lynched by a mob of more than two thousand.

Conjectures As To Cause.

Conjectures as to the cause of King's shooting Abernethy failed to reveal any logical reason for the affair. It was said that the time office of the Paramount Coal company gave each worker a time check for his work at the end of each day. Jim Tonnelon, Jr., who is in charge of this phase of the work left the office and came to Birmingham before the men were out of the mines, and therefore none of the workmen received any time check for the day.

Sheriff Faulkner and Law Enforcement Officer Tom Williamson stayed in Helena all Monday night, and Tuesday left the situation in charge of Helena Chief of Police Demeth Kirkland. The miners probably went back to work Wednesday, and little trouble is anticipated.

J. W. Roy, former deputy sheriff at Helena, and his son, Colley Roy, both of whom were wounded in the shooting Monday, were reported as being much improved Tuesday from the Birmingham hospitals where they were taken following the shooting. The elder Roy suffered a gunshot wound in the arm, while his son is suffering from numerous pepper shots in the face.

C. T. Davidson, general manager of the telephone company at Helena, declared Tuesday that King was not drunk as he was reported to have been, and had not even been drinking. He said that he had known King for 14 years, and had not known him to be drunk in all that time. King was a very peaceable Negro, he said, and had never caused any trouble. Also he had worked all day Monday, and this precluded any idea that he was crazed from the use of bad whiskey.

WHITE MAN LYNCHED

The Guardian

BODY FOUND HANGING TO TREE IN ALABAMA TOWN

Boston, Mass.

Man Found Hanging to Tree Believed Lynched

7-21-23

Centerville, Ala., July 14, 1923.—A coroner's jury inquiring into the death of John Poven of Blocton whose body was found hanging to a tree in Bibb county, today returned a verdict to the effect that the man came to his death at the hands of persons unknown. There was evidence, it was stated, that the man had been lynched.

Two Lynchings Reported Within Last Few Days

The Amsterdam

A letter has reached the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, 69 Fifth Avenue, New York City, reporting the unpublished lynching of a 60-year-old Negro named Will McBride, in the town of Adamsville, Ala., on Thursday night, July 12, 1923. The report charges that the Negro was taken from his home by 1,000 members of a masked organization and was found dead, his body terribly mangled, near a road.

REPORT UNPUBLISHED LYNCHING OF 60 YEAR OLD NEGRO AT ADAMSVILLE, ALABAMA

A letter has reached the National Association for the advancement of Colored People, sixty-nine Fifth Avenue, New York City, reporting the unpublished lynching of a 60-year old Negro, named Will McBride, in the town of Adamsville, Alabama, on Thursday night, July 12, 1923. The report charges that the Negro was taken from his home by one thousand members of a masked organization and was found dead, his body terribly mangled, near a road. Mobile, Ala.

It is charged that a crowd of school children had become frightened at meeting the old man on a country road, had told their teacher of their fright, and the old man was arrested charged with assault. In court the children are reported to have said they had been frightened merely by the sight of the old man and he was discharged. Feeling against him ran high and the lynching followed. Colored people who witnessed the affair have been told to leave town and terrorized into silence, the report states. Mobile Journ 8-31-23

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People has forwarded the substance of the report to the Governor of Alabama with a request for investigation and punishment of the lynchers if the facts are as stated.

CHARLOTTE, [illegible]

Star of Zion

AUG 23 1923

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Ref. 2-192x

Endley.
Jefferson Co.
Ala.

Dear Perperson I
Was Reading in
the Birmingham
News your Remarks
Printed Saying it
had not Ben any
Mobbing in Ala.
But you Miss it.
A man
at Adamsville
Name Will Mc Bride
was Brutelly Mob.
for Nothing you Can
investergate it and
find it. So

2

you Can write
To Dick Garth
Adamsville Ala.
and he will Kindly
Inform you.

Will Mc Bride
a K. of P.
you is Supose
to Be a leader of
the Negro Race.
that all.
Yours friend.
W. H.

Note: Correspondence found:
Lynchings: Correspondence, 1924
Lynchings: Cases of, 1924.



Perperson: Mattox.
Tuskegee Normal School:
Tuskegee, Ala

Lynchings—1923

Arkansas.

1554

Cases of.

NEGRO IS LYNCHED IN ARKANSAS

The St. Louis, Mo.

Five Men Arrested Following Death of Teamster

Clarion 8-24-23

EL DORADO, Ark., Aug. 11.—Five men are in the Union County Jail charged with being members of a mob that lynched Ed. Brock, a Negro teamster, at Murphyville, six miles northeast of Norphlet, at 2 o'clock Friday afternoon, details of which just reached El Dorado tonight. The men who were arrested by Deputies Son Robinson and William Johnson are being held without bond pending hearing, are: W. C. Randoff, J. A. Sarrer, I. J. McNell, J. S. Wright and Thomas Clack, all of whom are workers in the oil fields.

Information gathered by the officers is that the Negro insulted Mrs. W. C. Ranoff and when she told her husband the latter got a gun and captured the Negro. Ranoff claims he intended bringing the youth into El Dorado and putting him in the hands of the law, but that before he could do this, a mob of oil workers quickly formed, seized the Negro and whipped him. Not satisfied with this punishment the mob hung the Negro to the limb of a tree and then riddled the body with bullets.

The dead Negro remained hanging to the tree until 10 o'clock this morning when it was cut down by officers and the arrests followed.

Lynchings—1923 I. 1556
Cases of.

Arkansas.

ARKANSAS TOWN RESUMES USUAL QUIET AFTER WILD NIGHT OF LYNCHING AND EJECTION OF STRIKING RAIL SHOPMEN

Governor Suspends Order Mobilizing Troops at Harrison; "Committee of 1,000" Disperses; Grand Jury to Probe Case

Monteomery Advertiser 1/17/23

(Associated Press)

HARRISON, ARK., Jan. 16.—With a suspension of the order of Governor McRae at Little Rock late today ordering a company of Arkansas national guardsmen here with a possibility of declaring martial law upon their arrival, Harrison tonight resumed a tranquil appearance after two days of "armed action" in which one man was hanged, another wounded and scores of alleged Missouri and North Arkansas Railway strikers were escorted from town to the Missouri state line accompanied by a "committee of 1,000."

The "committee of 1,000" tonight broke up after holding special sessions behind closed doors for two days and one night and its members are on the way to their respective homes, some of whom came from a distance of 150 miles to assist in the roundup. No further trouble is anticipated.

The Arkansas house of representatives and senate this afternoon adopted a resolution authorizing Governor T. C. McRae to call out the national guard and declare martial law at Harrison. The resolution stated the state legislature would make all the appropriations necessary.

Last night it was said that virtually every striker in Harrison—about 200—have been ejected from the state or placed in jail by the committee.

The body of E. C. Gregor, striking railway shop worker, found early this morning hanging from a railway trestle was tonight taken by his wife and relatives to his former home for burial. Gregor, it is said, was hanged after he resisted attempts of the "committee of 1,000" who were seeking to identify persons who are said to have carried on a campaign of sabotage against the railway company. Gregor's home was visited by a committee demanding his surrender Monday night. Gregor is alleged to have replied with a revolver shot and escaped from the house in a hail of bullets. Emery dust and high explosives were found in Gregor's home, members of the committee charge.

Following the lynching of Gregor, George W. O'Neal, hotel proprietor and local capitalist, who is said to have furnished bail for many strikers arrested and charged with sabotage, was taken from his home and severely whipped. Today he was in the hands of a special committee which he promised he would lead to the hiding place of E. D. Stephens, former engineer, who, it is said, was wanted by the committee.

Up to a late hour tonight, Stephens had not been produced, but O'Neal was not further harmed.

Night Marshal Rash, of Harrison, who was accused of being a strike symapthizer, was seized, tied, flogged and ordered to leave town. He is said to have left late today "for parts unknown."

A. J. Russel, United States deputy marshal of Fort Smith spent today in Harrison investigating the situation. He came here on the orders of Attorney General Daugherty. Russell said tonight he would make his report direct to Mr. Daugherty early tomorrow and intimated he would recommend that the railway be placed under federal guard. It is undrestood that Vice-President and General Manager J. C. Murray of the Missouri and North Arkansas left Harrison late today for Fort Smith for the purpose of requesting Judge Youmans of the Western Arkansas federal court to issue an injunction to restrain persons from further interferring with the operation of the railroad.

CORONER'S VERDICT.

(Associated Press)

HARRISON, ARK., Jan. 16.—A coroner's jury investigating the hanging at 5 o'clock this morning of C. C. Gregor, a striker formerly employed by the Missouri and North Arkansas railroad late today returned this verdict:

"We, the jury, find that C. C. Gregor came to his death by strangulation from a rope around his neck, fastened to a railroad bridge, at the hands of unknown persons."

The inquest was then adjourned with recommendations that a grand jury now in session, investigate the lynching.

The body of Gregor was found at daybreak this morning by a railroad guard stationed near the scene of the lynching. This man whose name was not disclosed said that early this morning his attention was attracted by two motor cars which were driven beneath the bridge.

"It was too dark to discern the number of men in the cars," the guard was quoted as saying. "After a few moments the motor cars were driven away.

"I heard groans from the direction of the bridge and as soon as it became light enough to see, I went to the scene and found Gregor's body hanging from the bridge, suspended by a rope."

STONE WATCHES REPORTS

CHICAGO, Jan. 16.—Warren S. Stone, chief of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers and other train service brotherhood officials here attending hearings before the railroad labor board, were anxiously awaiting information from union officials tonight regarding the strike situation at Harrison, Ark.

After reading the Associated Press reports of the driving out of Harrison of alleged strikers formerly employed by the Missouri and North Arkansas railroad, the brotherhood chiefs said some action might be taken, when they had received an official report from union officials.

Mr. Stone said that most of the representatives of the sixteen standard rail unions who met here Sunday and voted to continue the strike on the Missouri and North Arkansas indefinitely, still were in Chicago and could be called into conference if the facts warranted. No action of any kind will be taken, however, pending the receipt of reports from union officials, the brotherhood chiefs said, adding that these were not expected before tomorrow.

In voting to continue the strike on this road last Sunday, union officials admitted that strong pressure had been brought to bear on them recently to have the strike which has been in progress for two years as a result of wage reductions, called off.

TROOPS ASKED IN ARKANSAS LYNCHING

Probe of Bridge Burnings Led to Disorders, Is Claim.

Man Is Whipped.

Jan 17 1923
Atlanta Georgian

HARRISON, Ark., Jan. 16.—E. C. Gregor, said to have resisted a committee of citizens investigating the recent burning of railroad bridges in Arkansas, was found dead Tuesday hanging to a railroad trestle near here. Atlanta Ga.

Cregor was a striking workman on the Missouri & North Arkansas Railroad. The burning of bridges on this road is being laid at the door of the strikers.

George W. O'Neal, a hotel man, who went on bond of some of the men under arrest for alleged participation in the plot to burn the company's property, was taken from his house early Tuesday in night clothes and whipped. Six bridges were destroyed last week.

Company officials threatened to suspend operation of the road unless proper protection was given.

Eight men, all alleged to be striking railroad workers, were arrested, charged with committing the depredations.

Citizens became incensed at the malicious destruction and formed a committee to ferret out the guilty.

Excitement ran high in this city following the finding of Cregor's body. Authorities began an immediate investigation.

The citizens' committee continued with its own investigation.

The railroad is a little more than 200 miles in length. If its operation were suspended the citizens would undergo great hardships. In many sections the road is the only means of obtaining food, mail and other necessities.

A strike on the road some time ago caused the road to suspend operation for approximately four months. Many towns were nearly isolated.

committee, and when he was called before it for a hearing avowed that "a day of reckoning would come." His body was found early this morning hanging from a bridge near the railway yards at Harrison. A coroner's jury has been impaneled to investigate the lynching.

W. G. Lee to Investigate.

W. G. Lee, president of the Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen, announced to-day that he would telegraph to Harrison, Ark., for details of the disorders there before making any statement or taking any action.

Intermittent violence has characterized the strike on the Missouri & North Arkansas which began early in 1921 and resulted in receivership and suspension of operation for many months. The road only resumed operations about three months ago. The strike followed an attempt on the part of the road to reduce wages.

TROOPS REQUESTED.

(By International News Service.)

LITTLE ROCK, Ark., Jan. 16.—Citizens of Harrison, Ark., where the body of C. E. Cregor was found hanging to a railway trestle today, have asked Governor McRae to send troops there, it was learned here this morning. Atlanta Georgian

State officials immediately began an investigation into the situation at Harrison and other points along the Missouri and North Arkansas Railway. It was believed troops would not be sent unless complications arise.

R. R. STRIKER HANGED BY MOB

Chicago Daily News 1/16/23

Arkansas Committee Also Reported to Have Whipped Others.

By The Associated Press.

Little Rock, Ark., Jan. 16.—One alleged railroad striker is reported to have been hanged by a mob of citizens numbering nearly 2,000 and several are said to have been horsewhipped at Harrison, according to the Harrison correspondent of the Arkansas Democrat.

A request from the mayor of Harrison for troops was answered by the governor with the statement that no troops were available. The citizens' committee, which was formed in the neighborhood of Harrison, is reported as about to leave the city. Unconfirmed rumors were that several persons had been killed, but no verification could be obtained.

The situation at Harrison is the result of burning of bridges, destruction of machinery and other depredations along the Missouri & North Arkansas railway.

The intenseness of the feeling of the citizens is indicated by the public whipping of a Harrison capitalist and hotel owner who is reported by the Democrat's correspondent as having been punished by citizens for having signed the bond of A. P. Stephens, a former railroad man, who was under arrest in connection with a charge of bridge burning.

E. C. Gregor, the man who was lynched, was said to have opened fire on citizens and officers who searched his home yesterday. They reported finding a quantity of emery dust and explosives in his home. Gregor is said to have defied the citizens'

1556

MURRAY DENIES MOB RODE ON FREE TRAINS

1-29-23

Citizens Chartered Special Equipment, He Says.

M. & N. A. MANAGER HERE

Arkansas Rail Chief Will Testify in Little Rock Monday Before Legislative Investigating Committee—All Quiet in Ozarks.

Charges that "mobs rode free trains" supplied by the Missouri & North Arkansas Railroad during the rebellion at Harirson when one shop striker was lynched, a score flogged and others fled, including sympathizers, were denied officially yesterday by John Collins Murray, general manager of the railroad, who was at the federal building during the government injunction inquiry.

"Citizens residing on our line south of Harrison chartered and paid for a special train on Saturday, prior to the assemblage of their committees in Harrison on Monday, Jan. 15," declared the youthful executive.

"We supplied them this equipment as a business proposition," he added. "They simply wanted to hire a special train and to pay for it, and filled their order.

"The reports emanating from certain sources in Little Rock that we furnished free trains for mobs to ride on are absurd and false. The legislative committee has heard only one side at other points on the Missouri recent events in the Ozarks."

Summoned to Testify.

Mr. Murray said he had been summoned to appear before the legislative investigating committee in Little Rock, Monday.

"I will be glad to furnish the committee all the information in my possession," he added. "But the people of Harrison and the citizens who reside at other points on the Missouri & North Arkansas Railroad will be disappointed if the legislative committee does not avail itself of the invitation to go up there and look over the ground personally and there gather first hand information."

Mr. Murray came to Memphis in company with Roy L. Thompson, chairman of the Little Rock board of trade. Mr. Thompson testified at the inquiry conducted by counsel engaged in taking proof in the rail strike injunction case. They were at the federal building during the forenoon.

"Everything is quiet in Ozarks," Mr. Murray said. "Since the excitement of last week many of the strikers have returned. Some are settling up their business affairs, preparing to go elsewhere, while others came back to stay. None was molested. The citizens, however, continued to keep the highways leading to Harrison under surveillance, fearing, I was informed, arrival of I. W. W. members and other radicals and undesirables."

LYNCHED WRONG MAN, ARKANSANS THINK

Atlanta Independent

Little Rock, Ark., Jan. 31.—Evidence tending to prove that E. C. Gregor, the Harrison railroad man who was hanged by a mob last week, could not have been implicated as accused in the burning of bridges on the Missouri & North Arkansas railroad, was obtained here tonight by the legislative committee investigating the strike situation. Unofficially, members of the committee are said to believe that the Harrison mob seized and hanged the wrong man.

WRONG MAN LYNCHED?

Ark. Gazette

The Freeman

LITTLE ROCK, Ark., Feb. — Evidence tending to prove that E. C. Gregor, the Harrison railroad man who was hanged by a mob last week, could not have been implicated in the burning of bridges on the Missouri & North Arkansas Railroad, was obtained here tonight by the legislative committee investigating the strike situation. Unofficllya members of the committee are said to believe that the Harrison mob seized and hanged the wrong man.

WRONG MAN HANGED AT HARRISON SOLONS TOLD

Striking M. & N. A. Employes Testify Before Committee.

DRY SPELL CAUSED FIRES

Manager of Large Plantation Declares Two Bridges Fired in Daylight on His Place Were Not of Incendiary Origin.

1-25-23

Commercial Appeal

(By the Associated Press.)

LITTLE ROCK, Ark., Jan. 24.—Reading into the records tonight depositions from his employers and fellow workers at a power plant near Forsythe, Mo., tending to show that E. C. Gregor, striking Missouri & North Arkansas Railroad employe, who was hanged at Harrison, Ark., last week following a series of bridge burnings and depredations along the railroad, could not have been implicated, the joint Senate and House committee of the Arkansas State Legislature appointed to investigate the Harrison situation closed the phase of the investigation dealing with the examination of strikers.

Memphis Ferm

Say Hanged Wrong Man.

The depositions, which tended to show that the men who hanged Gregor, if they were seeking persons connected with the bridge burnings, had hanged the wrong man, were from employers and fellow workmen of Gregor at a power plant near Forsythe, Mo., where Gregor went to work following the calling of the strike along the railroad. According to their testimony, Gregor was on his job at the power plant continuously and transportation facilities were such that it would have been impossible for him to have reached the scenes of the bridge burnings or other occurrences and returned.

Perhaps the most important witness examined tonight, from the viewpoint of the striking employes of the railroad, was D. G. Williams of Woodruff County, who testified he operated an 1,800-acre plantation upon which two Missouri & North Arkansas Railroad bridges are located.

When questioned by Senator J. R. Wilson of El Dorado, he said, that there had been two fires on the bridges. Both, he said, had been daylight fires, with many persons around and that he was positive the fires could not have been of incendiary origin. He said that his secretary, who was recently employed and came up to his plantation from Lee County during the dry spell in December, had told him he had seen at least forty small fires started along the right-of-way from sparks from fire boxes and from locomotives. One bridge on his place caught fire last September, and both fires occuring in dry spells. He said he had received a letter of thanks for prompt work in putting out the fire from J. C. Murray, manager of the railroad, and another from the assistant manager. Williams said he had no personal interest in the trouble between the strikers and the railroad and that he had good friends on both sides. He said he was interested financially, however, and wanted the road to operate.

Kyle Cook, a striking employe of the road who said he had been operating a restaurant in Searcy since JaJn. 1, said he left Heber Springs because he knew trouble was coming.

Cook's testimony substantially was to the effect that he had been approached by a striker who suggested burning a bridge about three days before the Alpena bridge was burned. This man, Cook testified, was now agent at Heber Springs. Cook gave the man's name as F. E. Vining. He said that Vining approached him one night shortly after the strike started when Vining "was all lit up." Vining, according to the testimony, told Cook that the railroad would win the strike, that something would have to be done right away and wanted to burn two bridges, one north and the other south of Heber Springs right away.

ARKANSAS FARMERS LYNCH RAIL STRIKER

One Man Is Hanged to a Bridge, Two Are Flogged and 200 Chased From Harrison

TO END SABOTAGE ON ROAD

1,000 Gather From Several Counties Which Had Suffered From Halted Rail Service.

1-17-23

New York Times

Special to The New York Times.

LITTLE ROCK, Ark., Jan. 16.—The lynching at Harrison last night or early this morning of a union railroad striker formerly employed on the Missouri & North Arkansas Railroad, and other recent outrages along the line of the railway, served today to focus attention on what is described as a state of open warfare between residents of the districts dependent on the railway and the union strikers. The latter have been on strike for two years, during which period the rural communities along the line of the Missouri & North Arkansas have suffered great hardships through impairment of its services.

So grave had the situation become today that resolutions were passed in both the State Senate and Assembly authorizing the Governor to proclaim martial law in the affected districts. Governor McRae at once gave orders for troops to move to Harrison, but suspended the order later upon request of the Sheriff of Boone County, who reported the civil authorities in control of the situation. The troops are being held in readiness, however, to be moved at a moment's notice.

The State Senate also ordered a thorough investigation of the situation and the outrages reported as well as the rail conditions generally.

While late reports from Harrison are that there seems to be no danger of further bloodshed, the feeling prevails generally throughout the State that the situation along the line of the railroad is so tense that violence by either faction will develop upon the slightest provocation.

Citizens War on Strikers.

For some time back there has been virtually open warfare between the members of the railroad unions and the residents of the numerous towns as a result of apparently concerted efforts to cause a suspension of the railroad's services by the striking union men, several of whom are under arrest charged with the destruction of railway property.

In the last ten weeks nearly a dozen bridges on the line have been fired and several destroyed. Dynamite has been exploded at other places along the right of way and trestles and tracks have been damaged. In several instances locomotives failed, and it was discovered that emery dust had been applied in such a way as to clog the machinery.

The last bridge to be attacked was destroyed by fire on Friday night. It caused a suspension of train service for three days, which was followed by the arrest of three men by the Sheriff of White County. One of the men is alleged to have confessed and to have implicated the other two.

This outrage was followed by a mass meeting of patrons of the road in Harrison yesterday, at which aCitizens' Committee, composed of one representative from every county served by the line, was organized to "put an end to the outrages by driving the strikers out of the country," according to language freely used at the meeting. It was a conference called to declare ware on the union railroad strikers, and the war began immediately.

The committee, with officials ordered by the Circuit Court to search the homes of strikers for evidence, called first at the home of C. E. Gregory, a striker. Gregory opened fire as the crowd surrounded his home and immediately a volley of shots was fired into his home. He speedily surrendered. Approximately fifty shots were fired, but there was only one casualty, a man by name of Greene, a present employe of the road, who was struck in the arm by a bullet fired by one of the posse of which he was a member. His injury is not serious.

The committee took Gregory in charge and this morning his body was found suspended from a railroad bridge near Harrison—one of the bridges that was not burned.

Who hanged Gegor has not been definitely established, but everyo ne believes the deed was done by members of the crowd that gathered in Harrison yesterday. The hanging of Gregor was carried out in pursuance to the often-repeated threat that if outrages against the railroad did not cease some union strikers would be found strung up.

Hotel Proprietor Whipped.

Following the capture of Gregor yesterday, members of the crowd entered the union hall in Harrison, where strikers' metings were held, seized the furniture, piled it in the public square and set it afire.

This morning a delegation called upon George W. O'Neal, proprietor of the Midway Hotel at Harrison, questioned him regarding his activities in behalf of strikers and administered a public whipping on the square. O'Neal is bondsman for one of the strikers charked with arson in connection with the burning of a bridge.

Lynchings--1923 II. Arkansas.

1555

Since the opening of the campaign against them yesterday it is reported that nearly all of the strikers living in Harrison have fled, and union railroad men residing in other towns along the M. & N. A. are reported moving. Most of them are heading north for Missouri.

While in the past the initiative in the struggle between the striking men and the road, which is backed by the people of the territory it serves, has been taken by the strikers and their sympathisers, the patrons of the road now are openly on the offensive, have armed themselves, and have announced that they will go the limit in their efforts to keep the railroad in operation.

The position of these people and the spirit that prompts them to acts of desperation result from their dependance on the M. & N. A. Railroad, which serves the northeast section of Arkansas, embracing a wide expanse of highly productive territory. There is no other railroad service there, and when this one line fails to operate business in practically 100 towns in thirteen counties comes to a stanstill. Food has to be brought in trucks over extremely bad roads for many miles, and the products of the territory have to be marketed in the same uncertain manner. During periods of bad weather many of these towns are practically cut off from the rest of the world. They are without mail and without newspapers, and on occasions they have been without sufficient food.

This situation has prevailed for more than two years, during which the union men have been on strike. A reduction in wages made when the M. & N. A. Railroad went into the hands of receivers precipitated the strike. The road offered to pay the wages prescribed by the Railway Labor Board, less 25 per cent., but the offer provided that as the earnings of the road increased the wages of the men would be increased until they reached the wage fixed by the Labor Board. The receivers also promised that no profit would be paid on stocks or bonds of the road until after the wages had been brought up to the standard.

This offer was rejected and the strike was declared. For a while the road was operated with non-union labor, but depredations along the line finally caused a suspension of service.

Last July the railroad was sold, the receivership was suspended an dservice was resumed with non-union men operating the trains. For several months there was no interference, but a few weeks ago there began a new series of outrages which culminated in the open warfare between the union strikers and the patrons of the road now being waged.

Committee of 1,000 Disbands.

HARRISON, Ark., Jan. 16.—With the suspension of the order of Governor McRae at Little Rock late today for a company of Arkansas National Guardsmen to come here, Harrison tonight resumed a tranquil appearance after two days of "armed action" in which one man was hanged, another wounded and scores of alleged Missouri & North Arkansas Railway strikers escorted from town to the Missouri State line, accompanied by a "Committee of 1,000."

The "Committee of 1,000" tonight broke up after holding special sessions behind closed doors for two days, and its members are on the way to their respective homes, some of whom came a distance of 150 miles to assist in the round-up. No further trouble is anticipated.

The body of E. C. Gregor, striking railway shop worker, found early this morning hanging from a railway trestle, was taken tonight by his wife and relatives to his former home for burial. Gregor, it is said, was hanged after he resisted attempts of the "Committee of 1,000," who were seeking to identify persons said to have carried on a campaign of sabotage against the railway company.

Preceding the hanging of Gregor, George W. O'Neal, hotel proprietor and local capitalist, who is said to have furnished bail for many strikers arrested and charged with sabotage, was taken from his home and severely whipped.

Night Marshal Rash of Harrison, who was accused of being a strike sympathizer, was seized, tied, flogged and ordered to leave town. He is said to have left late today.

A. J. Russell, United States Deputy Marshal of Fort Smith, spent today in Harrison investigating the situation. He came here on orders from Attorney General Daugherty. Russell said tonight he would make his report direct to Mr. Daugherty early tomorrow, and intimated he would recommend that the railway be placed under Federal guard.

NEGRO IS LYNCHED IN ARKANSAS

Five Men Arrested Following Death of Teamster.

8-16-23

EL DORADO, Ark., Aug. 11.—Five men are in the Union County Jail charged with being members of a mob that lynched Ed Brock, a Negro teamster, at Murphyville, six miles northeast of [illegible] Friday afternoon, details of which just reached El Dorado tonight. The men who were arrested by Deputies Son Robinson and William Johnson and are being held without bond pending hearing, are: W. C. Randoff, J. A. Sarrer, I. J. McNell, J. S. Wright and Thomas Clack, all of whom are workers in the oil fields.

Information gathered by the officers is that the Negro insulted Mrs. W. C. Ranoff and when she told her husband the latter got a gun and captured the Negro. Ranoff claims he intended bringing the youth into El Dorado and putting him in the hands of the law; but that before he could do this, a mob of oil workers quickly formed, seized the Negro and whipped him. Not satisfied with this punishment the mob hung the Negro to the limb of a tree and then riddled the body with bullets.

The dead Negro remained hanging to the tree until 10 o'clock this morning when it was cut down by officers and the arrests followed.

FIVE ARE ARRESTED IN NEGRO LYNCHING

Man Killed Said to Have Insulted Wife of One of Alleged Mob

8-11-23

EL DORADO, ARK., August 11.—Five men were in the county jail here tonight while officers investigating their alleged connection with the lynching of Edward Brooks, negro by a mob [illegible] Murphyville and town ten miles north of here.

The body, riddled with bullets, was cut down from a tree today.

Brook was reported to have insulted the wife of W. E. Randoff, one of the men held for investigation. Randoff, according to reports reaching here, had pursued the negro, captured him with the aid of a pistol, and was walking along the road with his prisoner when the mob appeared and took Brooks from him. Randoff declares he knows none of the men under arrest with him and knew no members of the mob

Lynchings—1923
Cases of
See Also: Riots.

Florida

1551

EVERY NIGGER OPEN HIS JAWS IS MOB ORDER TO PASTORS

Florida Whites Looking for Gold-Toothed Criminal Held Up All Trains

Baltimore

ARMED MOB BREAKS INTO A. M. E. CONFERENCE

Afro American

Pastors Are Lectured; Alleged Criminal Caught and Burned At Stake

By Old Timer

Jacksonville, Fla., Jan. 11. (Special)—That a Southern white mob cares not for the law and that not only those sworn to uphold the law care but little for their obligation when the race is concerned, have been proven time and again. The race riots at Rosewood, Fla., during the [illegible] on which whites and colored were killed and the homes of all Negroes burned, as well as the outbreak in Oklahoma, are but instances of the usual Southern custom.

Down in Taylor County, Fla., a colored man named Wright was accused of assaulting and murdering a white school teacher early in December.

He escaped and the roads were picketed and the woods scoured for him. As he formerly lived at a place named Madison, every approach to the town was watched by armed whites. The secretary of the 'stewards' board of the A. M. E. church at Madison did not, at his home is up quick enough on the night of December 5th, and was shot dead [illegible] A. M. E. Conference was to hold its sessions at the church to which the dead man belonged. As the "Jim Crow" train bringing the ministers to Madison approached the town armed whites boarded it. "Every Nigger open his jaws," commanded the whites as they leveled pistols at the ministers (the reason for such action being that Wright had been reported to have a gold tooth.)

On the morning of December 6th the conference opened with many of the ministers trembling for their safety. Just after the conference sessions began the Circuit Court judge, the county judge, a brother of the Governor, the county prosecutor, the president of the First National Bank and other whites walked into the church.

WHITES INTERRUPT SERVICES

The bank president constituted himself the presiding officer and proceeded to introduce some of the whites, leading off with the Circuit Court judge.

The judge began to harangue the ministers, by asserting this is a white man's country, that the whites are in control of the administration of the law and would continue supreme.

"I am sorry for the little thing that happened last night (referring to the killing of the innocent church steward) but we must capture 'Wright.' He then went on to say that things were in such a state of upheaval that he did not know whether or not the ministers could be protected from the mob.

The county prosecutor charged colored people with shielding race criminals and demanded that the ministers aid in turning Wright over to the "authorities."

BISHOP HURST ANSWERS

As the whites arose to leave, Bishop Hurst, who was in charge of the conference, told them that the African Methodists during the fifty years of the existence of the denomination in Florida had always stood for law and order. He also said that the race abhorred lynch law. He denied that the colored people shielded their own criminals in order to defeat the administration of the law.

"Guarantee that the man will have an orderly and fair trial by due process of law and these ministers and myself will help you scour the woods for the criminal."

Scowling faces from some of the whites indicated that they did not relish his remarks.

That same afternoon Wright was captured. The news spread quickly; white men, women and children came from miles around to witness the lynching.

A railroad tire was secured and Wright fastened thereto. Leaves were laced around him and the sister of the murdered woman applied the torch.

Flames soon surrounded the man's body and he died without a struggle or emitting a cry. The fact that he went so bravely to death did not satisfy many of the whites, who were anxious to see visible evidences of their victim's agony.

PULLMAN PORTER REPORTED LYNCHED

New York News
2-3-23

Unconfirmed reports were brought to this city by Pullman porters, who tell of one of their fellowmen being taken from a Seaboard Air Line Train in Florida and lynched. Some porters said the man who met his death was from Cincinnati, and the other man who escaped with a beating is from New York. Telegraphic communications to press agents in Florida failed to deny or confirm the report. The rumor is wide-spread and caused publicity in recent papers. The city editor made strenuous efforts to get sponsor authority for the report. The New York man is said to be J. Blair, of Harlem, but no one seems to know where he lived. Nor could intercommunications with Cincinnati reporters shed any light on the report.

NEGRO'S BODY FOUND

1-18-23
Montgomery Advertiser

Florida Cherry Tree Adorned with Black Taken From Jail

(Associated Press)

GAINESVILLE, FLA., Jan. 17.—The body of Abe Wilson, negro, was found today hanging from the limb of a cherry tree about two miles from Newberry, near here, according to local officials.

Wilson was taken from the Newberry jail late last night during the absence of Deputy Sheriff Wright by a mob and carried from the town. He had been convicted Tuesday of cattle-stealing and had been sentenced to a fine of $300 or a jail sentence of six months.

Newberry was the scene six years ago of one of the largest lynchings reported in Florida when five negroes were hanged at one time and another shot to death following the killing of a deputy sheriff there.

Man Taken From Jail And Hanged By Florida Mob

St Louis Argus
1/26/23

Associated Negro Press.

GAINESVILLE, Fla. Jan. 24.—Florida is still seeing red. The body of Abe Wilson was found hanging from a limb of a cherry tree near New Berry. Wilson was taken from the New Berry jail by a mob during the absence of Deputy Sheriff Wright who had left the jail unguarded and could not be found. He had been convicted of cattle stealing and had been sentenced to a fine of $300or a jail sentence of six months. His punish[illegible] was not sufficient according to the "citizen's" committee.

22 KILLED IN FLORIDA RACE WAR

Armed Warfare As Whites Attack Negro Community Following Escape of Suspect—"Dying, But Fighting Back"—Numerous Instances of Heroism as Colored Men Defend Homes and Lives Against Mob of Savages.

New York
Amsterdam News

(Special to the Amsterdam News.)

Rosewood, Fla., Jan. 9.—Eighteen white men and four Negroes are known to be dead and many others wounded in a savage mob battle that has raged here since the evening of January 5th, following an attempt by a mob of lawless whites to take the law into their hands in the case of a colored man accused of attacking a white woman. 1/10/23

Hearing that the accused man, Jesse Hunter, was in hiding in the village of Rosewood, whites from the neighboring towns invaded the Negro section and attempted a house to house search. They were met with a hail of bullets at the first house they came to. The inmates, recognizing the belligerency and lawless composition of the howling mob, did not wait to ask for an explanation of their visit. They opened fire and prepared to sell their lives dearly. They might not have committed any crime, but they knew a lawless mob when they saw one.

Two whites were killed outright at the first shower of lead. Four others were wounded, one probably fatally, and the whites retreated to await reinforcements from the surrounding lawless elements.

At this point Negroes from other houses came to the aid of their besieged brothers, and a rude barricade was thrown up, and loopholes made for rifle fire. Negro ex-soldiers put their knowledge and experience gained in France to use in the service of the Race and an effective defense was soon organized.

The whites, reinforced, came back, 600 strong, and a battle royal developed. In spite of their reinforcements, the whites were persistently beated back by the little determined band within the rude improvised fort. Robbed of their prey and not anxious to face the lions at bay, the most cowardly part of the white mob set itself to the safer task of destroying the undefended Negro residences and the village church and lodge buildings.

In the meantime, within their improvised fort the little colored group put up a defense that will bear comparison with many of the bravest feats of the colored soldiers on Flanders Field, and forged another link in the long chain of evidence going to show that the Negro has at last decided he can fight his own battles just as bravely and as effectively as he has ever fought the battles of others.

Finally, their ammunition almost exhausted, the little band decided to emulate the action of the "Guards at Cahill," and, with clubbed muskets, made a rush through the besieging forces and, breaking through, sought the refuge of the surrounding woods.

The vacated house revealed the bodies of two victims of the mob, one being that of an old woman.

Another colored woman, apparently forty years of age, was shot and killed on the same day not far from here. At Bronson, a few miles from here, a colored man was found on the roadway, his body riddled by bullets. On a lonely road another colored victim, a farmer, was found strung to the limb of a tree. Two Negro women were attacked and raped between Rosewood and Spencer. The sexual lust of the brutal white mobbists satisfied, the women were strangled. An older colored woman was severely maltreated on the same stretch of road and forced to submit herself to the most shameful sexual degradation.

Race feeling is running high as a result of these actual attacks on colored women and the alleged attack on a white woman. Negro farmers have armed themselves with rifles and shotguns and are grimly determined to protect their women and sell their lives dearly if it comes to that. The situation may culminate in violent race warfare worse than the terrible night at Rosewood.

Two Negroes have been arrested on suspicion of the alleged attack on a white woman and taken to Bronson, the county seat of Levy County. A white mob is reported to be on its way to lynch the two suspects on "general principles."

...e this afternoon the Negroes ...this village returned from their refuge in the woods and, entering one of the few buildings left standing, barricaded themselves in and prepared to meet another siege. A council of war was held and the sentiment expressed that they would endeavor to sell their lives as dearly as possible—"dying BUT FIGHTING BACK."

The whites are said to be sending out calls for further reinforcements before daring to attack again. Plans are under consideration to sneak up and set fire to the building and then "shoot the niggers down as they run out."

Among the whites already killed were several prominent men coming from the "best white families of the South," who are said to have acted as inciters and leaders of the mob.

and wore badges similar to those of peace officers.

The four Negroes in camp were lined up and Hart was selected by one of the men in the cars and he was taken away.

No arrests have been made, but it is understood that one member of the mob has been indentified by the sheriff.

Handcuffed Negro Found Shot to Death in Florida

Jacksonville, Fla., Aug. 24.—The body of a Negro, riddled with shots and with hands bound together with handcuffs, was found late tonight in a ditch along King's road, three miles from Jacksonville, by residents who had been aroused by shots and had seen two Negroes being pursued down the road by four white men.

MOB LYNCHES AN INNOCENT FLORIDA MAN

Colored Farm Hand Riddled With Bullets' On Girl's Flimsy Story.' Found By Sheriff To Be Guiltless.

JACKSONVILLE, Fla., Aug. 29—The handcuffed, bullet-riddled body of a Negro, found on a road shortly after midnight Saturday, has been identified as that of Len Hart, 34, a farm hand.

He had been suspected of being the Negro who, early Friday, peeped into the window of a girl at the Three-Mile Ranch.

Reports to the sheriff's office, however, were said to indicate Hart was innocent.

Martow Jones and Cobb Pickett, his father-in-law, employers of Hart, told the sheriff they had seen Hart at 5 o'clock Friday morning at their logging camp, ten miles from Three Mile Ranch. According to the girl's story, the man appeared at her window at 3 o'clock. Jones and Pickett said Hart could not have walked the ten miles in two hours.

The girl told two deputies she could not remember what the intruder looked like.

Investigation revealed that Hart had been taken from the logging camp about 9 o'clock Friday night by men who came in two automobiles

INNOCENT NEGRO IS LYNCH VICTIM OF FLORIDA MOB

Jacksonville, Fla., Aug. 25.—Arrests were promised shortly by Henry Lilienthal, county detective, tonight after an investigation of the lynching last midnight of Ben Hart, Negro, whose bullet riddled body, with the hands manacled, was found in a ditch.

Investigators today said the mob had lynched an innocent Negro.

At 9:30 o'clock last night about ten unmasked men called at Hart's home, told him they were deputy sheriffs and were going to take him to the county jail. They represented, it was said, that the Negro was wanted for peeping in a young woman's window. Hart agreed to go readily, saying he was innocent. It developed today that at the time a Negro peeped into the window, Hart was at home, twelve miles away, and that it was impossible for him to have been the one wanted.

ANOTHER BLOW TO AMERICANISM.

(By The Associated Negro Press)

JACKSONVILLE, FLA., Aug. 31—Ben Hart, colored farm hand, was found lying face downward in a ditch near here, his hands manacled behind his back and his body riddled with bullets. It developed later that a gang of four or five white men had driven to the logging camp where Hart was employed, posed as officers, selected him from a group of employees and charged him with peeping in a young white woman's room at three o'clock in the morning, then piked him up in the road, firing volleys of bullets at him as he ran. Hart's employers deny that he was away from the camp. County authorities promise arrests and say they know the identity of one of the men.

NEGRO LYNCHED, BODY RIDDLED WITH BULLETS

Motive Not Known for Deed in Florida Woods.

ANOTHER'S BODY FOUND

Second Black Discovered Decapitated in Crek After Missing 10 Days—Jacksonville Excited Over Activities of Mysterious Mob.

JACKSONVILLE, Fla., Dec. 30.—The body of a young negro man, riddled with bullets and his head crushed with an ax, was found in a wooded section near Dinsmore, six miles west of Jacksonville, at 1 o'clock this afternoon. Authorities were told by residents of that vicinity that four unidentified white men had carried him to the spot in an automobile, fired several bullets into his body and then one of them struck him in the head with an ax.

J. S. Geiger, justice of the peace, received a telephone call shortly before 1 o'clock this afternoon from a man who refused to give his name. The man told the justice to go to Grand Crossing immediately, that a party of white men was about to "lynch a negro."

Ten minutes later Mr. Geiger received word that a negro had been lynched at Dinsmore, three miles beyond Grand Crossing. He was attempting to organize a posse at the time the second call was received.

Officials have been unable to learn the reason for the lynching. The victim is believed to be Gene Burman, 24 years old, of Jacksonville. After the lynching the white men returned to their automobiles and sped away, going in the opposite direction from Jacksonville.

Headless Body Found.

Today's lynching followed closely the finding of the headless body of a negro in McGirts Creek, 12 miles southwest of Jacksonville, last night. The body was weighted down with two pieces of railroad iron and had apparently been in the water about 10 days. It was first believed the body was that of a white man, but today it was determined it was that of a negro. There were no marks on the body, but the head had been severed with a sharp instrument. There was no evidence of a struggle.

The body of the negro who was lynched was identified at the morgue tonight as that of Burman. The identification was made by his sister, who could assign no reason for the lynching.

Following the lynching and finding of the negro's decapitated body in the creek last night, police today removed Joe Fain and Joe Jones, negroes, who are said to have confessed to robbing and shooting W. S. Humphries, a druggist, on the night of Dec. 22, from the police station to the county jail for safe keeping. Early today an unidentified negro was shot and killed by a storekeeper, who, seeing the man hiding behind a chair in front of his store, fired six times at him. One of the shots struck the negro in the chest. A pistol was found nearby, it was said.

The body found in the creek last night was weighted down with two pieces of railroad iron, one of which was fastened by wires to the wrists, around the waist and to the right ankle. The other was fastened by wires to the left ankle. Belief was expressed that the man had been killed elsewhere and taken to the creek. The spot where the body was found is in one of the most secluded sections of the county, being 35 miles from the nearest residence. The body was found by a resident of that vicinity who saw a small portion of the body, which was in an upright position, protruding above the surface of the water.

Youth Lynched By Four Men In Florida Wood

Mystery Surrounds Finding of Bullet Riddled Body. Second Lynching in Two Days.

JACKSONVILLE, Fla., Jan. 3.—The body of a young colored boy riddled with bullets and his head crushed with [illegible] found in a wooded section near Dinsmore, six miles west of Jacksonville, at 5 o'clock Sunday afternoon.

Authorities were told by residents of that vicinity that four unidentified men had carried him to the spot in an automobile, fired several bullets into his body and then one of them struck him in the head with an ax.

Officers have been unable to learn the reason for the lynching. The victim is believed to be Gene Burman, [illegible] Jacksonville. After the lynching the men returned to their automobile and sped away, going in the opposite direction from Jacksonville.

Sunday's lynching follows closely the finding of a headless body of an unidentified colored man in McGirts Creek, 12 miles osuthwest of Jacksonville, Saturday night. The body was weighted down with two pieces of railroad iron and apparently had been in the water about 10 days. There were no marks on the body, but the head had been severed with a sharp instrument. There was no evidence of a struggle.

Lynchings — 1923
Cases of.

Florida

1552

PULLMAN CAR PORTER TAKEN FROM CAR AND LYNCHED IN FLA

1/31/23.
Amsterdam News.

Two Pullman car porters were forcibly taken from a Sea Board Air Line train in Florida on Wednesday of last week and one was lynched, according to a story brought to New York by a porter on the same train. The alleged cause for the crime is that they insulted a white woman. One of the men, J. Blair, was a resident of New York City. New York.

Blair and another porter, who was in charge of the Cincinnati section of the train, were completing a round trip from Florida. Around 11 o'clock on Wednesday night, two white women who were accompanying a dead body to some place in Georgia, boarded the train between Tampa and Jacksonville. They did not have the necessary tickets. To questions the only reply they could get was that the undertaker was on the train, had the tickets and would produce them in due time.

So far as has been learned the only "insult" to the women was a request for the tickets required by the company.

turned that the man had met his death at the hands of unknown persons. Just what steps county and state officials will do to bring the lynchers to justice is yet unknown as no statement in official circles has been issued in this connection.

Suspected of Killing; Florida Man Lynched

Barbarous State That Was Forced by Nation to Abolish Peonage Still Continues Savage Murder.

(Crusader Service)

PALM BEACH, Fla., June 11.—With the story of Martin Tabert and Florida's barbarous peonage and whipping systems still in the shocked ears of the North, the "best white people" of Florida—the business men—turned out in automobiles with their wives and children for "the lynching show"—gave notice to the civilized world to-day, when the body of Henry Simmons was found hanging to a tree, that, in spite of the laws that her Legislature was forced to pass, the heart of Florida is still substantially as savage as it was before the nation-wide exposure and agitation of the Martin Tabert case forced her legislative body to withdraw the protection of legality from her rotten systems.

The body of Henry Simmons, which was found hanging to the limb of a tree on Palm Beach Island, had been riddled with bullets. Simmons was "suspected" of having shot and killed Policeman J. N. Smith, white.

Chicago Defender 6-16-23
Chicago Whites Lynch Negro 6-13-23

driven away, returned and went upstairs after his father. He found the place deserted and his father's body on the floor.

Simmons escaped from the place by climbing into an automobile truck parked in the street and fled. The crowd which had hastily gathered in the business section of the city when news of the slaying was carried there by another excited negro, gave chase and captured the slayer several miles down the road.

He was brought back and lynched within fifty feet of the scene of the murder. Before his death he declared that he had been employed by a white man for whom he sold moonshine, to shoot Bryant, who had been active against bootleggers. In response to a telephone call, which said further race trouble was feared, Sheriff Allen and several deputies and Chief of Police McQuigg of Miami rushed to Homestead in automobiles. The arrested a white man, J. E. Anderson. He was brought back and lodged in the city jail. No formal charge has been preferred against him.

Homestead was quiet tonight and a search for two other negroes has been abandoned. Simmons is said to have confessed before he was lynched.

Bryant leaves three children, the oldest 14. His wife died a week ago and was buried Monday.

NEW YORK HERALD
JUNE 8, 1923

NEGRO LYNCHED IN FLORIDA.

PALM BEACH, Fla., June 7.—The body of Henry Simmons, negro, riddled with bullets was found to-day hanging to a tree on Palm Beach Island. The negro was suspected of having shot and killed Policeman J. N. Smith, a native of Staunton, Va., Sunday morning.

long a seldom traveled road hanged him to a tree and riddled his body with bullets. The next day a white deliveryman was passing the place and reported that he saw a Negro's body hanging to a tree several miles from the city. Officers went out and cut the body down and brought it to the county morgue, where a coroner's inquest was held and a verdict was returned that the man had met his death at the hands of unknown persons. Just what steps county and state officials will take to bring the lynchers to justice is yet unknown as no statement in official circles has been issued in this connection.

Suspect Lynched In the City of Palms

Chicago Defender 6-16-23

Palm Beach, Fla., June 16.—The body of Henry Simmons, riddled with bullets, was found hanging to a tree on Palm Beach Island.

The Negro was suspected of having shot and killed Policeman J. N. Smith, a native of Staunton, Va., on Sunday morning.

Simmons was a native of the Bahama Islands. The body was found by a delivery man for a local ice company where Simmons had been employed. A coroner's jury returned a verdict that the man came to his death at the hands of parties unknown. The body of Policeman Smith will be shipped to his former home at Staunton, Va., for burial.

FIND BODY OF NEGRO RIDDLED WITH BULLETS

Murder Suspect Killed on Palm Beach Island.

Chicago Defender 6-16-23

PALM BEACH, Fla., June 7.—The body of Henry Simmons, negro, riddled with bullets, was found today hanging to a tree on Palm Beach Island. The negro was suspected of having shot and killed Policeman J. N. Smith, a native of Staunton, Va., Sunday morning.

The Negro was a native of the Bahama Islands. The body was found by a deliveryman for a local ice company where Simmons had been employed. A coroner's jury returned a verdict that the Negro came to his death at the hands of parties unknown. The body of Policeman Smith will be shipped to his former home at Staunton, Va., for burial.

COLORED MAN LYNCHED AT PALM BEACH BECAUSE HE WAS TOO "OUTSPOKEN"

Native Of Bahama Assailed Southern Whites For Mistreating Negroes. Policeman Slain, He Pays The Penalty.

Preston News Service

PALM BEACH, Fla., June 13.—It is said that Henry Simmons was disliked by the whites in this section because he was an outspoken man and frequently assailed the Southern whites about the way they treated American Negroes. Simmons was a native of the Bahama Islands. He is said to have been an industrious man and was well liked by his employer.

A few days ago a white policeman, a native of Staunton, Va., was mysteriously murdered. This gave the disgruntled whites a pretext to reek vengeance upon Simmons. They quietly formed a mob and spirited Simmons to a woods along a seldom traveled road hanged him to a tree and then riddled his body with bullets. The next day a white delivery man was passing the place and reported that he saw a Negro's body hanging to a tree several miles from the city. Officers went out and cut the body down and brought it to the county morgue, where a coroner's inquest was held and a verdict was re-

LYNCHING FOLLOWS OFFICERS' MURDER

Negro Who Shot Marshal During Liquor Raid Tied to Tree and Riddled

MIAMI, FLA., June 15.—Charles R. Bryant, town marshal of Homestead, was shot to death this afternoon in a pool room in the negro quarter of Homestead when he attempted to make a liquor raid single handed. Thirty minutes later a negro known as "Gray Eye" Simmons, his alleged slayer, was bound to a tree by a crowd of men and riddled with bullets.

Bryant and his 14 year old son drove up to the pool room in an automobile about 2 o'clock. Bryant went inside and mounted the stairs to the second floor. According to witnesses, he was met by other negroes, he was met by a fusillade of bullets from a revolver in the hands of Simmons. A few minutes later Bryant's son who had

HENRY SIMMONS BODY FOUND HANGING ON TREE.

(Preston News Service)

PALM BEACH, FLA.—June 15—It is said that Henry Simmons was disliked by the whites in this section because he was an outspoken man and frequently assailed the southern whites about the way they treated American Negroes. Simmons was a native of the Bahama Islands. He is said to have been an industrious man and was well liked by his employer.

A few days ago a white policeman, a native of Staunton, Va., was mysteriously murdered. This gave the disgruntled whites a pretext to reek vengeance upon Simmons. They quietly formed a mob and last Wednesday night spirited Simmons to a woods a-

LYNCHED AT PALM B'CH

ON MAIN THOROUGHFARE OF WINTER RESORT FOR NORTHERNERS IN SOUTH.

Palm Beach, Fla., June 1923.—(I. N. S.)—Following the death of J. N. Smith, policeman, the bullet-riddled body of Sam Simmons, Colored, was found early today hanging to a live oak tree on a main thoroughfare of Palm Beach.

The officer was shot while he was investigating the movements of three Colored men.

Suspected Slayer Found Lynched

PALM BEACH, Fla., June 14.—The body of Henry Simmons, riddled with bullets, was found today hanging to a tree on Palm Beach Island.

The man was suspected of having shot and killed Policeman J. N. Smith a native of Staunton, on Sunday morning.

NEGRO HANGED

Body of Man Suspected of Murder Is Found Suspended From Tree.

PALM BEACH, FLA., June 7.—The body of Henry Simmons, negro, riddled with bullets was found hanging to a tree on Palm Beach Island. The negro was suspected of having shot and killed policeman J. N. Smith, a native of Staunton, Va., Sunday morning.

The negro was a native of the Bahama islands. The body was found by a deliveryman for a local ice company where Simmons had been employed.

A coroner's jury returned a verdict that the negro came to hi sdeath at the hands of parties unknown.

BODY OF H. SIMMONS FOUND HANGING ON TREE IN FLORIDA

(Boston News Service.)

Palm Beach, Fla., June 14.—It is said that Henry Simmons was disliked by the whites in this section because he was an outspoken man and frequently assailed the southern whites about the way they treated American Negroes. Simmons was a native of the Bahama Islands. He is said to have been an industrious man and was well liked by his employer.

A few days ago a white policeman, a native of Staunton, Va., was mysteriously murdered. This gave the disgruntled whites a pretext to seek vengeance upon Simmons. They quietly formed a mob and last Wednesday night spirited Simmons to a woods along a seldom traveled road, hanged him to a tree and then riddled his body with bullets. The next day a white deliveryman was passing the place and reported that he saw a Negro's body hanging to a tree several miles from the city. Officers went out and cut the body down and brought it to the county morgue, where a coroner's inquest was held and a verdict was returned that the man had met his death at the hands of unknown persons. Just what steps county and state officials will take to bring the lynchers to justice is yet unknown as no statement in official circles has been issued in this connection.

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JACKSONVILLE FLA Times-Union

JUN 8 1923

PALM BEACH NEGRO HANGED TO A TREE BY UNKNOWN MEN

Supposed to Have Been Implicated in Killing of Policeman J. N. Smith By Negroes Sunday Morning—Another Negro Beaten By Mob—No Disorder Followed Finding of Negro's Body.

West Palm Beach, June 7.—(Special.)—A party of white men took Henry Simmons, negro, from his home early today and hanged him to a tree in Palm Beach, in the place where a negro killed J. N. Smith, a Palm Beach policeman Sunday. James Sands, another negro, was beaten.

None of the men are known and reports vary as to the size of the crowd.

Since the killing of Smith, sheriff's forces had not found the negro or the two others who were with him at the killing. Sands and Simmons were not on the list of suspects, it is said.

The city was quiet today with deputies patrolling the colored quarters.

West Palm Beach, June 7.—(By The Associated Press.)—Judge E. C. Davis of the circuit court, was still undecided tonight whether he would call a special grand jury to inquire into the lynching early this morning of Henry Simmons, negro, whose body was found hanging by a rope from a tree on the Hotel Ponciana baseball park. The board of county commissioners declined to act on a suggestion by Sheriff R. C. Baker, that a reward be offered for the arrest of the lynchers, taking the view that any effort to learn the identity of the men would be futile. The number of men in the party who hanged Simmons is estimated by some residents of the negro quarters to be five and by others as twelve or fifteen.

An hour before Simmons was taken from his home, James Sands a Bahama Island negro, was beaten by a group of men, who took him to the place on the beach where Policeman T. N. Smith, of Palm Beach, was shot by three negroes early Sunday morning.

The funeral of the dead policeman was held this afternoon and the body will be shipped tonight to Raphine, Va., where his mother lives.

The inquest on the body of Simmons will be held tomorrow afternoon by County Judge Chillingworth.

N Y C WORLD

JUNE 8, 1923

NEGRO FOUND LYNCHED.

PALM BEACH, Fla., June 7.—The body of Henry Simmons, Negro, riddled with bullets, was found to-day hanging to a tree on Palm Beach Island. Simmons was suspected of having shot and killed Policeman J. N. Smith, a native of Staunton, Va., Sunday morning.

LYNCH WRONG MAN ON WINDOW PEEPING

The Montgomery Advertiser

Florida Mob Takes Negro From House Manacled and Shoot Him Down

JACKSONVILLE, FLA., August 25.—Arrests were promised shortly by Henry Lilienthal, county detective, tonight after an investigation of the lynching last midnight of Ben Hart, negro, whose bullet-riddled body, with the hands manacled, was found in a ditch along King's road, three miles from Jacksonville after residents had seen several white men pursuing a negro down the road and firing at him. Hart was struck six times by pistol bullets. 8-26-23

Information gathered by investigators today led them to believe that mob members had lynched an innocent negro.

At 9:30 o'clock last night about ten unmasked men called at Hart's home, told him they were deputy sheriffs and were going to take him to the county jail. They represented, it was said, that the negro was wanted for peeping in a young woman's window. Hart agreed to go, saying he was innocent. It developed today that at the time a negro peeped into the window, Hart was at home 12 miles away and that it was impossible for him to have been the one wanted.

Whether the negro was put out of an automobile and told to run for his life or whether he jumped out in an attempt to escape has not been learned. Residents of the vicinity where the lynching occurred saw four men pursuing a negro and shooting. Following them was an automobile and several other cars were in the immediate neighborhood. It was believed there were between 25 and 30 in the party.

LYNCHED NEGRO FOUND.

The Commercial Appeal

"Peeper" Suspect Killed at Jacksonville, Said Believed Innocent.

JACKSONVILLE, Fla., Aug. 25.—The handcuffed, bullet-riddled body of a negro, found on a road near Jacksonville shortly after midnight, was identified today as that of Ben Hart, 34, farm hand, who had been suspected of being the negro who early Friday morning peeped into the bedroom window of a girl in a neighboring community known as Three Mile Branch. Reports to the sheriff's office, however, were said to indicate Hart was innocent.

Bartow Jones and Cobb Pickett, his father-in-law, employers of Hart, in statements to the sheriff this morning, declared they had seen Hart at 5 o'clock Friday morning at their logging camp, ten miles from Three Mile Branch. According to the girl's story, the negro appeared at her window at 3 o'clock. Jones and Pickett declared the negro could not have walked the ten miles in two hours.

According to the girl's story, the "peeper" appeared at her window at four o'clock in the morning. Hart could not possibly have walked the intervening distance of ten miles in one hour, his employers declare.

Deputies visited the girl's home and asked her to accompany them to the logging camp to identify Hart, but she declared she doubted if she would remember his face.

Investigation revealed that Hart had been taken from the logging camp about 9 o'clock Friday night by men who came in two automobiles. The four colored men who live at the camp were lined up. Hart was selected by one of the men in the cars and taken away.

Residents Hear Firing

Residents outside of Jacksonville heard a fusillade of shots just after midnight. The firing lasted about fifteen minutes, and it was estimated that 300 or 400 shots were fired. As the firing died away, six automobiles bearing about twenty-five men were seen speeding away.

When dawn broke a party of deputy sheriffs who had been notified of the shooting, visited the spot and found the body of the dead man. He was lying face downward at the side of the road with his hands manacled in front of him. The entire back of his head was blown away by the bullets. His features were recognizable, it is thought, on account of the fact that his captors made him turn his back when they began shooting.

No arrests have been made for the killing.

MURDERED MAN WAS INNOCENT OF "PEEPING"

Chicago

Accused by Mob and His Body is Shot to Pieces

JACKSONVILLE, Fla., Sept. 1.—The handcuffed, bullet ridden body of Benjamin Hart, 34, was found on a road near Jacksonville early Saturday morning. The dead man's body had been literally peppered with bullets, and authorities believe that more than 200 shots had taken effect. 9-1-23

Early Friday morning it was reported that a farm hand had peeped through a window into the bedroom of a young white girl in a neighboring community known as Three Mile Branch.

Hart was evidently shot to death by a mob for this offense, although it has been conclusively proved that he was innocent of any connection with the affair.

Exonerated by Employer

Two farmers, employers of Hart, in statements to the sheriff declared that they had seen him at five o'clock on the morning in question at their logging camp three miles from the scene of the "peeping."

Lynchings—1923. 1558 Florida. 1558

Cases of

NEGRO IS LYNCHED BY 4 WHITE MEN IN FLORIDA WOOD

Motive Uncertain, But Deed Follows Discovery of Headless Body in Creek.

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS.

Jacksonville, Fla., December 30.—The body of a young negro man, riddled with bullets and his head crushed with an axe, was found in a wooded section near Dinsmore, six miles west of Jacksonville, at 1 o'clock this afternoon. Authorities were told by residents of that vicinity that four unidentified white men had carried him to the spot in an automobile, fired several bullets into his body and then one of them struck him in the head with an axe.

J. S. Geiger, justice of the peace, received a telephone call shortly before 1 o'clock from a man who refused to give his name. The man told the justice to go to Grand Crossing immediately that a party of white men was about to "lynch a negro." Ten minutes later Mr. Geiger received another call that a negro had been lynched at Dinsmore, three miles beyond Grand Crossing. He was attempting to organize a posse at the time the second call was received.

Today's lynching follows closely the finding of the headless body of a negro in McGirts creek, twelve miles southwest of Jacksonville, last night. The body was weighted down with two pieces of railroad iron and apparently had been in the water about ten days. It was first believed the body was that of a white man, but today it was determined it was that of a negro. There were no marks on the body, but the head had been severed with a sharp instrument. There was no evidence of a struggle.

Another Negro Slain.

The body of the negro who was lynched was identified at the morgue tonight as that of Gene Burnam. The identification was made by his sister, who could assign no reason for the lynching.

Following the lynching and the finding of the negro's decapitated body in the creek last night, police today removed Joe Fain and Joe Jones, negroes, who are said to have confessed to robbing and shooting W. S. Humphries, a druggist, on the night of December 22, from the police station to the county jail for safekeeping.

Early today an unidentified negro was shot and killed by a storekeeper, who, seeing the man hiding behind a chair in front of his store, fired six times at him. One of the shots struck the negro in the chest. A pistol was found nearby, it was said.

The body found in the creek last night was weighted down with two pieces of railroad iron, one of which was fastened by wires to the wrists, around the waist and to the right ankle. The other was fastened by wires to the left ankle. Belief was expressed that the man had been killed elsewhere and taken to the creek. The spot where the body was found is in one of the most secluded sections of the county, being three miles from the nearest residence. The body was found by a resident of that vicinity who saw a small portion of the body, which was in an upright position, protruding above the surface of the water.

LYNCHING DONE BY 'SHINERS, THEORY.

Jacksonville, Fla., December 30.—The theory that Eugene Burnam, negro, who was lynched near here this afternoon by a party of white men, was a victim of bootleggers or moonshiners who suspected he had given information concerning them to authorities was advanced by officers tonight. He had been arrested on December 27, on a charge of having moonshine in his possession, but was released. Recently there have been a number of stills raided in the vicinity of the spot where the lynching occurred.

Burnam's body was found in a wooded section near Dinsmore, six miles from Jacksonville, at 1 o'clock this afternoon. His body had been riddled with bullets and he had been struck in the face with a hammer. There were said to have been four white men in the lynching party, two of whom were identified.

The headless body of a negro found in a creek near here last night was identified tonight as that of Edgar Phillips, who left his home here December 18, telling relatives he would be back Christmas day. Identification was established by means of finger prints, Phillips having been arrested some time ago on a charge of breaking and entering.

Police said they had information Phillips had been engaged in moonshining and the theory was advanced that he had been killed by other moonshiners. His head had been severed at the shoulders with a sharp instrument and the body weighted with pieces of iron before being thrown in the creek. When the body was found by a resident last night it was in an upright position, a part of it protruding above the surface.

GUARD DETACHMENT QUELLS ARKANSAS MOB.

Fort Smith, Ark., December 30.—Ten negroes who barricaded themselves in a house in the Catcher community, five miles from Van Buren, Ark., late today, when white residents threatened a riot as a result of the killing late Friday of Mrs. Rose Latimer, were ordered to national guardsmen from Ozark, and were lodged in the jail at Van Buren early tonight on charges of night riding.

A score or more of negroes were hurried to the Van Buren jail by officers who feared a serious clash between the races. The white population offered little or no resistance to the guardsmen who were ordered to the scene early this afternoon by Governor T. C. McRae.

Town Is Quiet.

The ten negroes who barricaded themselves in a house surrendered only after Captain Otto W. Kayer, in command of the detachment of troops, threatened them with machine gun fire. They were assured protection and finally agreed to accompany the troops to Van Buren.

Quiet prevailed in the little community early tonight and Captain Kayer said his troops would return to their station at Ozark. No further trouble is feared, the officer said.

Judge James A. Cochrane, of the circuit court, has called a special grand jury to investigate the killing of Mrs. Latimer. The jury will meet in Van Buren Wednesday.

Father of Suspect Shot.

Charles Ruck, 35 years old, father of Spurgeon Ruck, one of the negroes charged with the slaying of Mrs. Latimer, was probably fatally wounded shortly before noon by a special officer who said he fired when the negro failed to put up his hands in response to an order to do so. Ruck is not expected to live through the night.

Another negro who was said to have held up a truckload of white men at the point of a pistol was arrested late this afternoon.

There was a general exodus of the negro population during the afternoon and only a small number remained in the community tonight.

Three negroes, Spurgeon Ruck, William Bettis and John Clay, the latter only 15 years of age, have been arrested in connection with the killing. Clay is alleged to have made a confession and officers said he implicated Ruck and Bettis. Clay was in the Crawford county jail at Van Buren, 15 miles from this city, last night. Ruck and Bettis, who were taken to Van Buren yesterday afternoon, were spirited away when a mob of several hundred men formed and threatened to storm the jail early last night.

ATLANTA, GA., Constitution
NOV 31 1923

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Macon, Ga. TELEGRAPH

JAN 1 - 1924

Shiners' Death Code Is Blamed for Crime

Negroes Are Believed to Have Been Slain by Rum Men

JACKSONVILLE, Fla., Dec. 31. Eugene Burman, negro, lynched Sunday afternoon near Jacksonville by a band of white men, and Edgar Phillips, negro, whose headless body was found in McGirts' Creek Saturday, were victims of a "death code" of Duval County moonshiners, according to the theory of the county and city police forces, but that is the only point of agreement between the two forces today.

F. A. Hazeltine, divisional prohibition chief, whose agents raided several stills recently in outlying county districts today denied reports either Phillips or Burman had been informers. He denied ever having seen them or talked to them.

Efforts to apprehend the men responsible for the lynching of Burman are being made by County Detective Henry Lilienthal and Deputy Frank Jones.

Rum Possession Banned

"Burman was working for moonshiners," Jones said. "There is little doubt of that, although we cannot prove it in court. I believe he was killed because he informed officials of the source of twenty-five gallons of moonshine whisky found when he was arrested. If he did not give out information at least his slayers thought he had. That is our theory of the case."

The moonshiners' death code includes capital punishment for many offenses, according to police officials. Stealing whisky and informing are chief among these. Negro employes of the moonshiners ring are likely to suffer if caught with whisky on them, it is reported.

BROOKLYN N. Y. TIMES
DECEMBER 31, 1923

Moonshiners Blamed for Florida Lynching

Jacksonville, Fla., Dec. 31.—The theory that Eugene Burnam, negro, whose body was found [redacted] night, was lynched by moonshiners was advanced by officials today.

Authorities pointed out that a series of raids have been launched against moonshiners in this section recently and that the distillers probably have become angered.

Four white men, according to the information given authorities, carried the negro to Dinsmore, where he was shot several times and then hit on the head with an axe.

Lynchings—1923
Cases of.
See Also: Riots.

1553 Florida

KILL SIX IN FLORIDA; BURN NEGRO HOUSES

new York Times
1-6-23

Search for Escaped Negro Convict Leads to Race Riot, in Which Two White Men Die.

NEGROES SET UP BARRICADE

And Escape to Neighboring Woods When Attackers' Ammunition Fails.

ROSEWOOD, Fla., Jan. 5 (Associated Press).—Armed posses of white men, numbering between 200 and 300, were searching tonight for Jesse Hunter, escaped negro convict, who, in addition to an alleged attack on a white girl, has been the incidental cause of the killing of two white men and four negroes and the wounding of four other white men. The deaths and wounding resulted from a race riot fomented here last night by a search of the negro quarters for the wanted man.

Following the clash between the races the negro section was set on fire and nearly destroyed, six houses and a negro church being burned. All negroes have fled from Rosewood and are believed to be hiding in the woods for protection.

C. P. Wilkinson, a merchant of Sumner, and Henry Andrews, superintendent of the Cummer Lumber Company, at Otter Creek, were killed when they advanced on a negro house last night to see Sylvester Carrier, negro, who was believed to know the whereabouts of Hunter. Their companions then rained bullets on the house, the negroes returning the fire. The number of negroes in the house was estimated at twenty-five.

Before dawn the white men's ammunition was exhausted and the negroes escaped before the supply could be replenished. A search of the house revealed that Sylvester Carrier and his mother, Sarah Carrier, had been shot to death. Lesty Gordon, negro woman, was shot to death as she was leaving her burning dwelling, it was reported. This afternoon the body of Mingo Williams, negro, was found on a road about twenty miles from Rosewood. He had been shot through the jaw.

The white men wounded were: Cecil Studstill of Sumner, Bryan Kirkland of Sumner, Mannie Hudson of Sumner and Henry Odon of Otter Creek. Several negroes are also believed to bear wounds inflicted in the fight.

The community had been aroused since an attack on a young white woman at Sumner on Monday. Hunter, who escaped from a road gang in Levy County, was accused in connection with the crime, which was said to have resulted in Carrier saying his act was an example of what the negroes could do without interference.

The white men went to Carrier's home last night to see if Hunter was there and to warn Carrier against further talk of that kind. Hunter was serving a prison term for carrying concealed weapons.

It was believed he was in the house at the time of the clash.

LAST NEGRO HOMES RAZED IN ROSEWOOD

Florida Mob Deliberately Fires One House After Another in Block Section.

NEGROES HIDE IN WOODS

Authorities Now Believe Race Riots Which Caused Seven Deaths Have Come to an End.

1/8/23
New York Times

ROSEWOOD, Fla., Jan. 7 (Associated Press).—Twelve houses, all that remained of the negro section of Rosewood following the clash between whites and blacks on Thursday night, in which seven were killed, were fired by a crowd of white men here this afternoon and burned to the ground.

The houses were fired, one at a time, while a crowd of between 100 and 150 men looked on without making an effort to extinguish the flames, according to Levy County authorities. All of the negroes were hiding in the woods, where they went late Thursday night after the clash.

The burning of the houses was carried out deliberately, and, although the crowd was present all the time, no one could be found who would say he saw the houses fired. Six houses and a negro church were burned Thursday night immediatery after a crowd of white men, advancing on a negro house, had been fired on from the house and two killed.

The negroes escaped from the house after two of them had been shot to death by the whites, who rained bullets on the structure until their ammunition was exhausted. A negro woman was killed as she was leaving her burning dwelling. Another negro was slain about twenty miles from the scene of the trouble, and yesterday a fifth negro was shot to death in Sumner on the graves of his mother and brother, and one of the other negro victims was shot when he is said to have refused to tell his white captors the names of those in the house who fired on the white men.

In the opinion of the officers, the fires today mark the end of the racial disturbance, which was precipitated when the white men went t othe negro house in search of Jesse Hunter, wanted for alleged implication in an attack on a young white woman at Sumner Monday. Hunter has not been captured.

Several of the negroes who were barricaded in the house have been arrested, it was learned tonight, and have been spirited away for safekeeping. The prisoners are said to have admitted that there were eighteen negroes present.

At Sumner all the negroes are kept in the quarters when not at work in the lumber mill, a deadline having been established between the negro and white sections.

BLACK IS HANDED OVER TO FLORIDA MOB, THEN KILLED

Toll of Riots Reaches Seven; Negro Keeps Names Secret

Houston Post
1/7/23

Associated Press Report.

SUMNER, Fla., Jan. 6.—Handed over to a mob when it appeared a fresh racial clash was imminent, an unidentified negro, apparently aged 60, was shot to death at Rosewood this morning over three newly made graves containing the bodies of three negroes killed in a battle at Rosewood Thursday night.

The negro was taken to the scene of the first outbreak Thursday night and there, over the graves of the three negroes who were killed when a mob attacked a house in which a score or more of blacks had barricaded themselves, the negro was questioned by his captors. He admitted, it was said, that he had been in the barricaded house and had taken refuge in a swamp when the negroes escaped.

The negro refused to divulge the names of other negroes in the party. His captors riddled him with bullets, leaving the body stretched across the graves.

The negro returned to Rosewood this morning and appealed to W. H. Pillsbury, superintendent of the Cummer Cypress company mill there, for protection. Pillsbury locked the negro in a house in the negro quarter. Later, however, when a new clash became imminent, the negro was turned over to 25 or 30 men.

The death of the unidentified negro brings the total casualties to seven as a result of the troubles at Rosewood. The dead include two white men who were killed in the first volley fired by the negroes when they were surrounded by a party of Sumner men who were seeking Jesse Hunter, negro, who is alleged to have participated in an attack on a young white woman. The other victims were four negro men and a negress.

Reports said feeling at Rosewood, which had subsided after the battle of Thursday night, had become inflamed today as a result of the capture and slaying of the aged negro.

ADDITIONAL VIOLENCE IN WAKE OF RACE RIOT

Negro Is Shot to Death by Mob in Florida.

TOTAL DEATH TOLL SEVEN

Victim at First Hidden by Employers Is Turned Over to 25 or 30 Men in Order to Avoid New Clash.

1/7/23
Commercial Appeal

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Goes After Negro.

The sheriff said a resident of Levy County who knew Hunter has gone there to see if he can identify the prisoner who is wanted for alleged implication in an attack on a young white woman. Conditions here this afternoon still are quiet and no further trouble is expected, the sheriff said.

The negro was taken to the scene of the first outbreak Thursday night and there, over the graves of the three negroes who were killed when a mob attacked a house in which a score or more of blacks had barricaded themselves, the negro was questioned by his captors. He admitted, it was said, that he had been in the barricaded house and hade taken refuge in a swamp when the negroes escaped.

The negro refused to divulge the names of other negroes in the party. His captors then riddled him with bullets, leaving the body stretched across the graves.

The negro returned to Rosewood this morning and appealed to W. H. Pillsbury, superintendent of the Cummer Cypress Company mill there, for protection. Pillsbury locked the negro in a house in the negro quarter. Later, however, when a new clash became imminent the negro was turned over to 25 or 30 men.

Total Deaths Seven.

The death of the unidentified negro brings the total casualties to seven as a result of the troubles at Rosewood. The dead include two white men who were killed in the first volley fired by the negroes when they were surrounded by a party of Sumner men who were seeking James Hunter, negro, who is alleged to have participated in an attack on a young white woman. The other victims were four negro men and a negress.

Reports said feeling at Rosewood, which had subsided after the battle of Thursday night had become inflamed today as a result of the capture and slaying of the aged negr

1553

SECOND BATTLE IN RACE WAR FEARED; POSSES SEEK NEGRO

Houston Post
Houston Texas

Six Dead, Four Wounded Is Present Toll of Clash

1-6-23

BLACKS FLEE TO COUNTRY

Associated Press Report.

ROSEWOOD, Fla., Jan. 5.—Armed posses of white men, numbering between 200 and 300, tonight were scouring the countryside for Jesse Hunter, escaped negro convict, search for whom last night in connection with an attack on a white girl resulted in the killing of two white men and four negroes and the wounding of four other white men.

Sheriff Elias Walker said only six were killed, despite reports of a large number. Additional ammunition has been ordered from Gainesville, and Sheriff Walker told the Associated Press tonight that further trouble appeared imminent.

Negroes Are Armed.

Relatives of the slain negroes are believed to be armed and are expected to cause trouble if overtaken by the whites. Following the clash between the races the negro section was fired and virtually destroyed, six houses and a negro church building being burned. All negroes have fled Rosewood and are believed to be hiding in the woods for protection.

C. P. Wilkinson, a merchant of Sumner, and Henry Andrews, superintendent of the Sumner Lumber company at Otter Creek, were killed when they advanced on a negro house last night to see Sylvester Carrier, a negro who was believed to know the whereabouts of Hunter. Their companions then rained bullets upon the house, the negroes returning the fire. The number of negroes in the house was estimated at 25.

Before dawn the white men's ammunition was exhausted and the negroes escaped before the supply could be replenished. A search of the house disclosed that Sylvester Carrier and his mother, Sarah Carrier, had been

shot to death.

Negro Woman Shot.

Lesty Gordon, negro woman, was shot to death as she was leaving her burning dwelling, it was reported. This afternoon the body of Mingo Williams, negro, was found on a road about 20 miles from Rosewood. He had been shot through the jaw.

The white men wounded were:

Cecil Stubville of Sumner, Ira Kirkhall of Sumner, Mannie Hudson of Sumner and Henry Odon of Otter Creek. Several negroes also are believed to have been shot. The community has been aroused since the attack on the young white woman at Sumner Monday. Hunter, who escaped from a road gang in Levy county, was accused in connection with the crime, which was said to have resulted in Carrier saying his act was an example of what the negroes could do without interference.

The white men went to Carrier's home last night, both to see if Hunter was there and to warn Carrier against further talk of that kind. Hunter was serving a prison term for carrying concealed weapons.

It was believed he was in the house at the time of the clash.

Old Gentleman Who Shielded Son Shot To Death by Mob

New York News

BRONSON, Fla., Jan. 12.—"Blood is thicker than water," so Sam Carter, aged 55, was shot to death here after he is alleged to have confessed that he drove his son away with him in a wagon when a mob of 200 crackers surrounded his home. A white woman is alleged to have been attacked by some man. Two colored men are in jail, several were beaten on the highway. The mob kidnapped Carter, who led the posse to a point where he said the fugitive had left him. The hounds failed to pick up the scent. Carter's body was found there the other day riddled with bullets.

Feeling is still running high in Sumner, although the posse has dwindled to a mere handful of men. A mob estimated at between 400 and 500 men combed the woods, and many brought along lunches, but returned to their work in the lumber mill when the bloodhounds failed to pick up any further trace of the fleeing man.

COLORED MAN SHOT TO DEATH BY MOB

Richmond Planet
Richmond, Va.

Incensed Because He Aided Alleged Criminal to Escape.

1-6-23

Bronson, Fa., Jan. 2.—Sam Carter a 45 year old colored man was shot to death by a mob, near here late last night, after he had confessed that he transported in a horse and wagon for several miles a colored man being sought for the attack on a young white woman here early yesterday.

Two are in jail here in connection with the assault., while Sheriff Walker and posses are searching for two others, one of whom is believed to have been the actual prepetrator.

Carter became implicated when bloodhounds led a posse to the home of a colored family several miles from Sumner. There the resident admitted that he had hidden one of the men sought until Carter came and drove away with him in his wagon Carter was summoned and led the posse to a point where he said the fugitive had left him. The hounds failed to pick up the scent. Carter's body was found there early today riddled with bullets.

FLORIDA MOB SHOOTS NEGRO FOR ASSISTING ASSAILANT TO ESCAPE

Montgomery Advertiser

Two Jailed on Charge of Assaulting Young White Girl; Two Sought

1-3-23

(Associated Press)

BRONSON, FLA., Jan. 2.—Sam Carter, a 45 year old negro, was shot to death by a mob near here last night after he had confessed that he transported in a horse and wagon for several miles a negro being sought for the assault of a young white woman here early yesterday.

Two negroes are in jail here in connection with the assault while Sheriff Walker and posses are searching for two others, one of whom is believed to have been the actual perpetrator.

Carter became implicated when blood hounds led a posse to the house of a negro several miles from Sumner. There the resident admitted that he had hidden one of the men sought until Carter came and drove away with him in his wagon. Carter was summoned and led the posse to a point where he said the fugitive had left him. The hounds failed to pick up the scent. Carter's body was found there early today riddled with bullets.

The two negroes being sought are Carter's son and a negro convict who escaped from a turpentine camp a day or two ago. Young Carter was seen in his company several hours before the assault. The convict is believed to be the guilty man.

The victim had recovered today from the attack. She was badly beaten about the head and face and for several hours yesterday was unconscious.

FATHER

Afro-American
1-6-23

Lynched For Trying To Hide Son From a Flor-

Florida Mob

Bronson, Fla., Jan. 4.—Samuel Carter, 45 years old, a respected resident of this place, was shot to death by a mob last night after he had admitted aiding his son to escape the police.

Young Carter was sought by officers because he was thought to know the whereabouts of an escaped convict charged with assaulting a white woman. The two were seen together several hours before the assault.

The elder Carter faced the mob when the leaders knocked on his door, admitted that he had helped to get his son away by hiding him in the back part of his buggy. He led the mob to the point where he said his son jumped out and continued on foot. When bloodhounds were not able to pick up the scent, the members of the crowd vented their anger on the older Carter by ridding his body with bullets, and leaving it on the country road.

N. Y. C. TRIBUNE
JANUARY 7 1923

Florida Mob Shoots 5th Negro to Death

Man Is Killed on Graves of 4 Others Who Fell in Race Riots at Rosewood

ROSEWOOD, Fla., Jan. 6.—A new grave was dug in the negro cemetery at Sumner, near here, late to-day and in it Sheriff Elias Walker placed the body of James Carrier, whose death at the hands of several white men this morning was the sequel of the clash between the races at Rosewood Thursday night.

Carrier was shot to death while standing on the graves of the four other negroes who fell Thursday night in the fighting that followed an attempt of a crowd of white men to enter a negro house in search of Jesse Hunter, wanted for alleged implication in a attack on a white girl at Sumner.

Meanwhile, Hunter, search for whom has resulted in the seven deaths, is still at large.

Officers said to-night that the situation in the entire vicinity was quiet and that no further trouble was expected.

Mob Kills Negro Alleged Accomplice In Assault Case

Atlanta Constitution
1-3-23

Bronson, Fla., January 2.—Sam Carter, a 45 year old negro, was shot to death by a mob near here last night after he had confessed that he transported in a horse and a wagon for several miles a negro being sought for assault upon a young white woman here early yesterday.

Two negroes are in jail here in connection with the assault while Sheriff Walker and posses are searching for two others, one of whom is believed to have been the actual perpetrator.

Lynchings — 1923. Georgia. 1549

Cases of:

NEGROES LYNCHED IN OCONEE SWAMP, OFFICER IS KILLED

Negroes Alleged to Have Killed Constable Who Attempted to Arrest Them for Robbery.

Atlanta Constitution

Sparta, Ga., February 3.—(Special.)—Two unidentified negroes were riddled with bullets by a posse in the Oconee river swamp late this afternoon, according to telephone advices from Devereux. The negroes are alleged to be the two highwaymen who killed William Renfroe, a county constable, when he attempted to make an arrest. Atlanta Ga.,

The negroes are alleged to have held up and robbed George Underwood and E. H. Lowe, prominent merchants and farmers residing ten miles west of this place, Friday night, and afterwards shot Renfroe when he was attempting to place them under arrest.

Sheriff J. M. Jackson and several deputies are said to be with the posse "attempting to prevent violence."

2/4/23

NEGRO WOUNDS MEMBER OF POSSE.

Milledgeville, Ga., February 3.—Two negroes were lynched near the line dividing Hancock and Baldwin counties today, following the shooting of Lindsay B. Gilmore, a member of a posse that was pursuing them after their alleged robberies on the outskirts of this county during the night.

During the night the store of E. H. Lowe, at Carr's station, was robbed of $30, and later the general store of George Underwood was robbed of $60 cash and $15 worth of dry goods and a shotgun.

Two negroes were traced from the store by track dogs from the state farm here.

When the pursuing posse neared the negroes they opened fire with the stolen shotgun and Gilmore fell, seriously wounded.

Several shots were exchanged at the time and one of the negroes was lynched.

At 7 o'clock tonight the other negro was put to death just over the Baldwin county line in Hancock county. The first lynching occurred near Town creek, in Baldwin county, 100 yards from the Hancock county line.

The negroes have not been identified. They are believed to have been escaped convicts.

DIES FROM WOUNDS

Montgomery Advertiser

Victim of Negro's Bullet Succumbs Early Sunday

2-5-23

(Associated Press)

MILLEDGEVILLE, GA., Feb. 4.—Lindsay Gilmore, shot by one of two negroes who were being pursued by a posse of citizens yesterday, died early this morning at Devereaux, Ga., where he was taken for surgical treatment.

A coroner's jury held an inquest today over the body of a negro killed by the posse in Baldwin county, following the shooting of Gilmore, and returned a verdict that the negro came to his death while resisting arrest. The fatal shot was said to have been fired by a deputy sheriff.

The negro was identified as George Butts, who had been reared near Carr's Station. Gilmore informed the officers, it was brought out at the inquest, that Butts shot him.

LYNCHED NEGRO'S VICTIM SUCCUMBS

Houston Post

Associated Press Report.

MILLEDGEVILLE, Ga., Feb. 4.—Lyndsay Gilmore, shot by one of two negroes, who were being pursued by a posse of citizens yesterday, died early this morning at Devereaux, Ga., where he was taken for surgical treatment.

A coroner's jury held an inquest today over the body of a negro killed by the posse, in Baldwin county, following the shooting of Gilmore, and returned a verdict that the negro came to his death while resisting arrest. The fatal shot was said to have been fired by a deputy sheriff. 2-5-23

The negro was identified as George Butts.

Statements made last night that another negro also had been put to death in Hancock county, were denied today.

TWO NEGROES, ICHED.

Commercial Appeal

Action Followed Shoot of Member of Pursuing Georgia Posse.

Memphis June, 2-3-23

MILLEDGEVILLE, Ga., Feb. 4.—Two negroes were lynched near the line dividing Hancock and Baldwin counties today, following their shooting of Lindsay B. Gilmore, a member of a posse that was pursuing the negroes, after their alleged robberies on the outskirts of this county during the night.

The negroes are alleged to have burglarized two stores near Sparta, Ga., located near here and besides money secured a shot gun and ammunition. Bloodhounds from the state penitentiary picked up their trail early today.

When the pursuing posse neared the negroes they opened fire, with the stolen shotgun and Gilmore fell seriously wounded. Several shots were exchanged before one of the negroes was captured. His body was riddled with bullets.

The other negro escaped during the battle, but early tonight was overtaken and put to death.

The lynched men have not been identified.

Place Ears of Lynched Men on Exhibition

Chicago Herald Examiner 2-17-23

Milledgeville, Ga., Feb. 16.—Fingers and ears of the two men who were lynched near this city last week are in possession of prominent white business men here, according to local reports. A drug store has preserved a finger and an ear in a large bottle filled with alcohol and placed it on the counter for public inspection. An inscription near the bottle reads: 2-17-23

"What's left of the niggers that shot a white man."

The two men, unidentified, were accused of breaking into a grocery store and stealing cheese and a small sum from the cash register. Lindsay B. Gilmore (white), who pursued them, was shot, not by the two men, but by a local officer whose aim was faulty.

GANGS LYNCH TWO; ASSAULT CHARGED

The Atlanta Constitution

Macon, Ga., August 17.—(Special.) Lee Green, charged with attacking a prominent Houston county woman and Aaron Harris, a Macon negro, serving a twenty year sentence for assaulting a Macon woman in 1921, were lynched today at Wellston and Cochran, respectively. 8-18-23

The Green negro was arrested here Thursday night by City Detective L. J. Stevens and Patrolman Dobson while at work at the John S. Schofield & Sons foundry on Boundary street. He is said to have confessed to the crime at Wellston to members of the mob. Atlanta Ga.

Harris, according to the records of Bibb superior court, was arrested on a warrant charging burglary and a criminal assault on a young white woman, August 30, 1921. He was tried and sentenced to serve twenty years, December 1, 1921, and was sent to the Bleckley county chain-gang.

According to information reaching Macon today Harris was serving as water boy for a road gang which was working near Cochran, and attempted criminal assault on a farmer's wife while at the house to get water. The assault occurred Thursday afternoon and Thursday night the jail was stormed.

Jail Is Stormed.

Sheriff Jones, of Bleckley county, was out of the city at the time of the assault on the jail and the crowd is said to have worked for more than two hours, sawing bars and making a hole in the side of the jail through which they entered and secured their prisoner.

Harris was taken some distance from town and strung to a limb of a tree which had been used previously in a lynching.

Lee Green, the negro who was lynched in Honston county, was charged with having attacked a white woman in her home near Wellston July 4, about 7 o'clock in the evening.

The woman had been to Macon and as she walked into the front hall of her home was seized by some one. She did not see her assailant and sustained a severe blow on the head, which rendered her unconscious.

Track dogs took up the trail, which lead from the house, and after a few hours the trail was lost. City and county authorities in the neighboring counties were notified and searches were made for the negro, though no definite description was given at the time.

City Detectives Stevens was requested by Houston county officials to work on the case and had been on the trial of the negro for more than a month. He was finally located at work with the night shift at the Schofield foundry and his arrest was made Thursday night about 8 o'clock.

Taken From Officers.

The negro was kept in the city barracks here last night. Early this morning Officers L. J. Stevens and J. J. Fann started for Perry with the negro. Shortly after they crossed the Georgia railroad tracks at Ocheconnee station they were halted by a large crowd in about 20 automobiles and the negro taken from them.

The negro was placed in one of the automobiles and the entire party wheeled their cars and went back to the forks of the road. From there they turned towards Perry and no report was had of them until they appeared at Wellston a few minutes later.

The officers lost track of the cars, but at Wellston they heard the reports of hundreds of shots.

They proceeded in the direction of the shots and found the negro hanging to a tree dead. Hundreds of shots had been fired at him from the appearance of the trees in the vicinity.

According to information from Wellston, more than 300 people took part in lynching the negro and immediately after dispersed. The scene of the lynching was within sight of the house where the crime is alleged to have been committed.

Sheriff Chapman, of Houston county, was not present until an hour after the shooting took place, but a number of his deputies were there shortly after.

The negro is said to have confessed to members of the mob which lynched him.

GOVERNOR EMPLOYS COUNSEL FOR STATE.

News of the above two lynchings reached Atlanta Friday on the heels of announcement by Governor Walker that he had wired the law firm of Sibley & Sibley, Milledgeville attorneys, and Solicitor General Doyal Campbell, of Monticello, to represent the state of Georgia in the prosecution of Jim Nolan, arrested recently in connection with leading a mob into the Georgia Training School for Boys, at Milledgeville.

"I have asked the law firm of Sibley & Sibley to aid Solicitor Campbell in conducting the state's prosecution in the case," declared the governor.

While he had not received official information of the lynching of Lee Green, Houston county negro, which took place Friday morning, the governor stated that he would order an investigation at once.

"I expect to use all the power of my office to prevent disorder and lawlessness in Georgia," he asserted.

GEORGIA CROWDS BREAK INTO JAIL; NEGROES LYNCHED

The Houston Post

Associated Press Report.

ATLANTA, Ga., Aug. 17.—Two negroes were lynched in Georgia Friday. Early Friday morning a crowd of men broke in the Bleckley county jail at Cochran, Georgia, took a negro named Aleck Harris, charged with attacking a white woman, carried him 12 miles from town on the Dublin road, strung him to a tree and shot him to death. This mob was said to have been disguised and travelled in about 12 automobiles, from which the license numbers had been removed. 8-18-23

The second lynching occurred in Houston county where Lee Green, negro, was taken from officers, carried to the house of the woman he is alleged to have attacked. There he was strung to a tree and shot to death. This mob is said to have been composed of about 100 men. The two counties in which the lynching took place are in the center of the State, close to each other.

The Bleckley negro was serving a term on the chain gang for burglary at the time he was alleged to have committed the crime for which he was lynched. It took place last Wednesday. This mob tore a hole in the county jail, and sawed its way through a steel cage to get the negro. The sheriff was absent and no other jail officials were on duty, according to the information.

In both cases when the sheriffs reached the scenes the mobs were said already to have dispersed.

GEORGIA MOBS LYNCH TWO ON A SINGLE DAY

The Commercial Appeal

Hole Battered in Walls of Jail to Get One Negro.

SHERIFF WAS ABSENT

8-18-23

Second Negro Is Taken From Officers—Gov. Walker Promises Investigation, With Possible Prosecution.

Memphis Tenn.

(By The Associated Press.)

ATLANTA, Ga., Aug. 17.—Two negroes were lynched in Georgia today. Early this morning a crowd of men broke in the Bleckley County jail at Cockran, Ga., took a negro named Aleck Harris, charged with attacking a white woman, carried him 12 miles from town on the Dublin road, strung him to a tree and shot him to death. This mob was said to have been disguised and travelled in about 12 automobiles, from which the license numbers had been removed.

The second lynching occurred in Houston County where Lee Green, negro was taken from officers, and taken to the house of the woman he is alleged to have attacked. There he was hanged to a tree and riddled with bullets. This mob is said to have been composed of about 75 men. The two counties in which the lynchings took place are in the center of the state, close to each other.

Serving Term for Burglary.

The Bleckley negro was serving a term on the chain gang for burglary at the time he was alleged to have committed the crime for which he was lynched. It took place last Wednesday. This mob tore a hole in the county jail, and sawed its way through a steel cage to get the negro. The sheriff was absent and no other jail officials were on duty, according to the information.

In both cases when the sheriffs reached the scenes the mobs were said already to have dispersed.

"I expect to use all the power of my office to prevent disorder and lawlessness in Georgia," Governor Walker said today on hearing of the lynching of Green. The governor said he would make an investigation. He announced no official reports had been received at his office. The governor said any good citizen regrets lynchings as the courts should be permitted to proceed in an orderly manner, no matter how trying the circumstances may be in some instances.

Georgians Lynch Two Negroes for Alleged Attacks

The Montgomery Advertiser

ATLANTA, Ga., Aug. 17—Two negroes were lynched in Georgia today. Early this morning a crowd of men broke in the Bleckley county jail at Cochran, Ga., took a negro namad Aleck Harris, charged with attacking a white woman, carried him 12 miles from town on the Dublin road, strung him to a tree and shot him to death. This mob was said to have been disguised and travelled in about 12 automobiles, from which the license numbers had been removed.

8-18-23

The second lynching occurred in Houston county where Lee Green, negro was taken from officers, carried to the house of the woman he is alleged to have attacked. There he was strung to a tree and shot to death. This mob is said to have been composed of about 75 men. The two counties in which the lynchings took place are in the center of the state, close to each other.

Advertiser

The Bleckley negro was serving a term on the chain gang for burglary at the time he was alleged to have committed the crime for which he was lynched. It took place last Wednesday. This mob tore a hole in the county jail, and sawed its way through a steel cage to get the negro. The sheriff was absent and no other jail officials were on duty, according to the information.

In both cases when the sheriffs arrived the mob was said already to have dispersed.

Montgomery

"I expect to use all the power of my office to prevent disorder and lawlessness in Georgia," Gov. Walker said today on hearing of the lynching of Green. The governor said he would make an investigation. He announced no official reports had been received at his office. The governor said any good citizen regrets lynchings as the courts should be permitted to proceed in an orderly manner, no matter how trying the circumstances may be in some instances.

LYNCH NEGRO IN GEORGIA.

New York Crime

8-18-23

75 Men Take Him From Officers and Hang Him at Woman's Door.

MACON, Ga., Aug. 17.—Lee Green, a negro charged with attacking a white woman of Wellston, Ga., was taken from two Macon officers early today and lynched in the front yard of the woman's home. The negro was hanged from a big tree and riddled with bullets. He is said to have confessed.

Officers from Macon were transferring Green from Macon to Perry, when a mob held them up on the highway twelve miles from Macon and took charge of the prisoner.

Green was put into an automobile and driven to Wellston, where the lynching took place. About seventy-five men were in the mob, it was said.

Lynchers Shoot Two In Georgia

The Pittsburgh Courier 8-25-23

"Reign of Terror" Sweeps Southland as Hooded Bands Hold Sway—Governor May Take Drastic Measures.

Pittsburgh, Pa.

ATLANTA, Ga., Aug. 23.—Two Negroes were lynched in Georgia Friday.

Early Friday morning a crowd of men broke in the Bleckley county jail at Cochran, Georgia, took Aleck Harris, charged with "attacking" a white woman, carried him 12 miles from town on the Dublin road, strung him to a tree and shot him to death. This mob was said to have been disguised and traveled in about 12 automobiles, from which the license numbers had been removed.

Second Lynching

The second lynching occurred in Houston county where Lee Green was taken from officers, carried to the house of the woman he is "alleged" to have attacked. There he was strung to a tree and shot to death. This mob is said to have been composed of about 75 men. The two counties in which the lynchings took place are in the center of the state, close to each other.

Wrecked Jail

Bleckley was serving a term on the chain gang for burglary at the time he was alleged to have committed the crime for which he was lynched. It took place last Wednesday. This mob tore a hole in the county jail and sawed its way through a steel cage to get the man. The sheriff was absent and no other jail officials were on duty, according to the information.

In both cases when the sheriffs reached the scene the mobs were said already to have dispersed.

Governor's Statement

"I expect to use all the power in my office to prevent disorder and lawlessness in Georgia," Gov. Walker said Saturday on hearing of the lynching of Green. The governor said he would make an investigation. He announced no official reports had been received at his office. The governor said any good citizen regrets lynching as the courts should be permitted to proceed in an orderly manner, no matter how trying the circumstances may be in some instances.

SOUTHERN MOBS LYNCH THREE, FLOG TWO

The New York News

Mob in Georgia Takes Prisoner From Officers and Lynch Him in Woman's Door-yard

8-25-23

Arkansas Mob Murders Prisoner and Officers Arrest Five Men

New York, N.Y.

MACON, Ga., Aug. 20.—Mobs in central Georgia lynched two Negroes from Macon. A Bleckly County mob early this morning battered down the doors off the jail at Cochran, Ga., and seized Aaron Harris, serving twenty years on the chain gang from this (Bibb) County for burglary and criminal assault, because yesterday, he is alleged, to have attacked the wife of a white farmer while he had gone for water for the convict road gang to which he was assigned.

Harris was carried in an automobile for fourteen miles, where he was hanged on a tree, where others have been lynched. His body was riddled with bullets.

News of this lynching had become known to only a few persons here when detectives left Macon with Lee Green, charged with an attack on a white woman, of Wellston, Ga., on July 4. Wellston is about twenty-five miles south of here. The officers intended to go to Perry, the county seat of Houston County. A few miles out of Macon they found the road blocked. They say that the prisoner was forcibly taken from them.

Green was taken to Wellston, where members of the mob tied a rope around his neck. They then forced him to climb a tree in the dooryard of the home of the woman he is alleged to have attacked. The other end of the rope was tied around a limb. Green was told to jump. He refused. Probably 300 shots were fired into his body and he fell lifeless from the limb.

8-25-23

"We would not have started to Perry with Green if we had believed that any one knew of his capture; nor would we have undertaken the trip had we known that he was the right one," said Detective L. Stevens. "They say that the Negro confessed to the crime, but he did not confess while he was in our custody."

Mobs Lynch Two In Georgia Friday

The Atlanta Georgian

8-18-23

Two negroes lost their lives at the hands of mobs Friday, according to word reaching Atlanta.

Aaron Harris, the first victim, was taken from the Bleckley County jail at Cochran, Ga., early this morning and lynched because of an alleged attempt to attack a woman there some time ago. He had been convicted in Bibb County courts and was sentenced to 15 years imprisonment for burglary. The County Sheriff was away at the time of the lynching and little damage was done to the jail when the crowd stormed it.

Atlanta, Ga.

Lee Greene, negro, from Houston County, who was arrested at Macon Friday night, was taken from officers near there Friday, and, according to last reports, was lynched.

Atlanta, Ga., Georgian

AUG 17 1923

Mobs Lynch Two In Georgia Friday

Two negroes lost their lives at the hands of mobs Friday, according to word reaching Atlanta.

Aaron Harris, the first victim, was taken from the Bleckley County jail at Cochran, Ga., early this morning and lynched because of an alleged attempt to attack a woman there some time ago. He had been convicted in Bibb County courts and was sentenced to 15 years imprisonment for burglary. The County Sheriff was away at the time of the lynching and little damage was done to the jail when the crowd stormed it.

Lee Greene, negro, from Houston County, who was arrested at Macon Friday night, was taken from officers near there Friday, and, according to last reports, was lynched.

Lynchings — 1923. I. Georgia.
Cases of.

1550

LYNCHED IN GA.

SAME OLD ACCUSATION BUT NO TRIAL TO PROVE IT—TAKEN FROM OFFICERS OF THE LAW.

Macon, Ga., Aug. 17, 1923.—Lee Green, Colored, was taken from officers this morning and lynched just over the Bibb County line, according to a telephone report received here.

The Negro, arrested here last night in connection with an attack on a white woman in Houston County about a month ago, was being taken to Perry, Ga., to be handed over to the sheriff there.

MACON, Ga., Aug. 17.—Lee Green, a Negro, was taken from officers this morning and lynched just over the Bibb County line, according to a telephone report received here.

The Negro, arrested here last night in connection with an attack on a white woman in Houston County about a month ago, was being taken to Perry, Ga., to be handed over to the sheriff there.

TWO NEGROES LYNCHED BY GEORGIA MOBS

BOTH HAD BEEN ACCUSED OF ATTACKS ON WHITE WOMEN IN STATE.

Atlanta, Ga., Aug. 17.—Two negroes were lynched in Georgia today. Early this morning a crowd of men broke in the Bleckley county jail at Cochran, Ga., took a negro named Aleck Harris, charged with attacking a white woman, carried him 12 miles from town on the Dublin road, strung him to a tree and shot him to death. This mob was said to have been disguised and traveled in about twelve automobiles from which the license numbers had been removed.

The second lynching occurred in Houston county, when Lee Green, negro, was taken from officers, taken to the house of the woman he is alleged to have attacked. There he was strung to a tree and shot to death. This mob is said to have been composed of about 75 men. The two counties in which the lynchings took place are in the center of the state, close to each other.

The Bleckley negro was serving a term on the chain gang for burglary at the time he was alleged to have committed the crime for which he was lynched. It took place last Wednesday. This mob tore a hole in the county jail and sawed its way through a steel cage to get the negro. The sheriff was absent and no other jail officials were on duty, according to the information.

In both cases when the sheriffs reached the scenes the mobs were said already to have been dispersed.

"I expect to use all the power of my office to prevent disorder and lawlessness in Gerogia," Governor Walker said today on hearing of the lynching of Green. The governor said he would make an investigation. He announced no official reports had been received at his office. The governor said any good citizen regrets lynchings as the courts should be permitted to proceed in an orderly manner, no matter how trying the circumstances may be in some instances.

GEORGIA MOB KILLS [illegible]

Mob shoots man to death on lonely road and thus Lucifer adds another star to the crown of this savage state.

Macon, Ga., Aug. 21.—Lee Green, who was charged with "assaulting a white woman" was taken from the sheriff who was taking him to Perry, Georgia, a few miles away for "safe-keeping" and shot to death. The mob fired more than fifty shots into the man's body.

The mob took the man back to Macon before shooting him where he is alleged to have made a "confession" that he had intimate relations with the woman. Following this, before the man had ceased talking, the mob began firing into the man's bare breast. Governor Walker has announced his intentions to investigate the murder He has aked the seriff why he was removing the prisoner from the strong jail at Macon to the weak, shabby, frame jail house at Perry.

Macon, Ga. TELEGRAPH

AUG 18 1923.

ONE SLAIN NEAR COCHRAN, OTHER NEAR WELLSTON

Lee Green Taken From Macon Detectives at Echeconnee

BODY IS BULLET RIDDLED

Arrested Here Thursday on Charge of Criminal Assault

HARRIS TAKEN FROM JAIL

Convict on Bleckley Gang Accused of Attacking Woman

Two Macon negroes were victims of lynch law in Middle Georgia yesterday.

The victims were Lee Green, charged with a criminal assault upon a prominent Wellston woman, and Aaron Harris, serving twenty years for assaulting a woman here in 1921.

Green was put to death at Wellston, after being taken from officers at Echeconnee. Harris was seized by a mob that broke its way into the Bleckley County jail at Cochran, carrying him 14 miles from that town, where he was put to death.

An Associated Press dispatch from Atlanta states that Governor Walker will investigate the Wellston lynching. No mention was made of the Bleckley lynching and it is probable that no report of that affair had reached the ears of the Governor.

Green Arrested Thursday

The Green negro was arrested here Thursday night by City Detective L. J. Stevens and Patrolman Dopson while at work at the John S. Schofield's Sons foundry on Boundary Street. He is said to have confessed to the crime at Wellston to members of the mob.

At the Schofield Iron Works where Green was employed, it was learned from employes last night that the negro, Green, had been away from the plant since the middle of June, returning to work recently.

Last Sunday, according to one of the negroes at the shop, Green planned to go to Wellston, got into a car with a white man and was told that he had better not go to Wellston, for he was accused of an assault.

The negro got out of the car finally, although he insisted that he knew nothing about the crime, and stayed in Macon.

Employes at Schofield's last night believed that the wrong negro was lynched.

"There was absolutely no struggle when the negro was placed under arrest," said the Telegraph's informant.

Harris, according to the records of Bibb Superior Court, was arrested on a warrant charging burglary and a criminal assault on a young white woman August 30, 1921. He was tried and sentenced to serve twenty years December 1, 1921, and was sent to the Bleckley County chaingang.

According to information reaching the Telegraph yesterday, Harris was serving as water boy for a road gang which was working near Cochran, and attempted criminal assault on a farmer's wife while at the house to get water. The assault occurred Thursday afternoon and Thursday night the jail was stormed.

Breaks Hole In Jail Wall

Sheriff Jones, of Bleckley County, was out of the city at the time of the assault on the jail and the mob is said to have worked for more than two hours, sawing bars and making a hole in the side of the jail through which they entered and secured their prisoner.

Harris was taken some distance from town and strung to a limb of a tree which had been used by a mob in a previous lynching.

Lee Green, the negro who was lynched by a Houston County mob, was charged with having attacked a white woman in her home near Wellston July 4, about 7 o'clock in the evening.

The woman had been to Macon and as she walked into the front hall, she was seized by some one. She did not see her assailant and sustained a severe blow on the head which rendered her unconscious.

Track dogs took up the trail which led from the house and after a few hours the trail was lost. City and county authorities in the neighboring counties were notified and searches were made for the negro though no definite description was given at the time.

Held Up at Echeconnee

City Detective Stevens was requested by Houston County officials to work on the case and had been on the trail of the negro for more than a month. The negro was finally located at work with the night shift at the Schofield foundry and his arrest was made Thursday night about 8 o'clock.

The negro was taken to the city barracks and utmost secrecy was maintained by city authorities for fear of mob violence. Detective Stevens with J. J. Fann, of the detective force, left Macon yesterday morning about 8 o'clock for Perry. Every precaution was taken to prevent mob violence, they stated, and Sheriff Chapman was not notified of the arrest nor was he told that the officers were bringing the negro to Perry.

Detective Fann drove the automobile, which was a Ford, and Stevens sat on the back seat with the negro, who was handcuffed. Just as they crossed the Central of Georgia Railroad at Echecoonee Station they saw two automobiles parked at the forks of the road. Instead of taking the Perry Road, they took the right hand fork toward Byron.

"As soon as I saw them," said Stevens, "I grabbed the negro by the back of the neck and told him, 'Get down in the bottom of the car and stay there.' At the same time I called to Fann, 'Give her the gas.' When Fann opened up he barely missed one of the men who tried to stop us in the middle of the road.

Big Car Blocks Road.

"We got by them all right," Stevens said, "and I thought that we had gotten away. I looked back and saw instead of two or three cars, fifteen or twenty cars, all in pursuit of us."

The officers in the car with the negro said that they ran their car as fast as they could and were gaining on the cars behind when at the E. J. Willingham Place, a large touring car left the other cars and passed them. About 500 yards ahead of the detectives' car, the men in the larger car threw it across the road and pulled their guns on the approaching car containing the negro.

One of the men said, "Stop, or we will al go to hell together." The other cars drove up behind the detectives' automobile and they found themselves hemmed in, front and back.

Stevens told the men he was not sure the negro was the one wanted and both Fann and Stevens said they pleaded with the men for a chance to see that the negro was identified. One member of the crowd told Stevens that they were going to take the negro regardless, and if the was the wrong one, he would be returned to the Perry jail. During this time the negro did not open his mouth and apparently was not frightened.

Stevens held his hand on the negro until one of the members of the mob jerked the negro from the officer's hands. The negro attempted to hold to the top of the automobile. He was jerked away from the car, placed in one of the automobiles and the entire party wheeled their cars and went back to the forks of the road. From there they turned toward Perry and no report was had of them until they appeared at Wellston a few minutes later.

Find Body Hanging From Tree.

Stevens went to a nearby farmhouse and phoned Chief of Detectives Ed Chambliss ordered Stevens and dent. Chambliss ordered Stevens and Fann to follow the mob. They lost track of the cars, but followed the road to Wellston. At Wellston they heard the reports of hundreds of shots, after waiting there about fifteen minutes, and were told by two men there that no automobiles had passed that way.

They proceeded in the direction of the shots and found the negro hanging to a tree dead. Hundreds of shots had been fired at him from the appearance of the trees in the vicinity.

According to information from Wellston, more than 300 people took part in lynching the negro and immediately after dispersed. The scene of the lynching was within the sight of the house where the crime is alleged to have been committed.

Sheriff Chapman of Houston County was not present an hour after the shooting took place, but a number of his deputies were there shortly after.

Identification in Doubt

Detective Stevens said last night that he would have taken the negro to the Bibb County Jail or to the Tower in Atlanta rather than Houston County, had he known that the man was the guilty party. "I wanted to get him in the Perry Jail and confront him with the witnesses there," he

said. "I did not think any one knew that I had him."

The negro is said to have confessed to members of the mob which lynched him at Wellston yesterday morning, according to information which was indirect, but Stevens said that the negro had not confessed to him or any of the Macon authorities while in the city barracks.

Six witnesses had been found by the Macon officer whose testimony had lead to the arrest of Green. A white man, a negro and a young negro girl had all seen the negro near the scene of the alleged attack on the afternoon of July 4

Green, after coming to Macon, had talked to three Macon negroes who reported the matter to Detective Stevens, but at no time had he made an actual confession of the crime. The negro was unable to tell a straightforward story of his actions on July 4, however.

Governor Concerned

Macon Telegraph Bureau.
The Kimball House.

ATLANTA, Aug. 17.—Governor Walker is manifesting a deep concern in the acts of lawnessless which lately have been called to his attention, including the lynching on the border of Houston County of a negro being taken from Macon to Perry.

"I am going the very limit of this office," said the Governor in conversation today, "to stop all this violence and disregard for the law. It is true that the Governor's office has very little latitude in the matter of compelling enforcement of the law. We have to work through the courts, unless the situation reaches a state wherein the civil authorities find themselves unable to cope with a situation, and then the military is employed, but it is always a matter of reluctance that is done for in a way it is regarded as a reflection upon the community where military force is used.

"This office can try to stiffen the backs of the sheriffs, can urged grand juries to become active and call upon the judges."

Referring to the recent incident at the Boys Training School at Milledgeville the Governor said he is today endeavoring to find two machine guns to place at the institution, upon request of Mrs. Manson, the superintendent, for further protection of the place, and in comment upon that situation the Governor remarked:

"That's a horrible state of affairs, weher the Governor has to place machine guns at a state institution to protect a woman officer of the State and the charges of the State who are confined at the institution. It is awful in the extreme."

Has No Further Fear

Mrs. Manson, while here to make the request for the additional machine guns yesterday—there is already one stationed at the reformatory—made the declaration that she does not entertain any further fear she would be unable to cope with any situation which may arise, but she is still highly resentful of the two night attacks made on the place and says she will know how to handle any further or renewed effort to molest the employes or inmates.

"We have one machine gun there now, and have asked for more. It is my intention, if any band of men attempt to come on the property after dark hereafter, to simply turn those guns on them and turn loose a fire of lead without waiting to find out what they want or who they are. A mob doesn't give its intended victim any showing whatever, and it is my purpose to treat the next mob that approaches the Boys' Training School with a dose of their own medicine. I am going to turn loose the machine guns first and find out what the harvest is afterward."

The Nolan case is set for hearing in Milledgeville at 2 o'clock tomorrow, when a commitment trial will be held on the warrant under which Nolan was arrested, charging him with inciting to riot. It is expected at least four more arrests will be made in that case before Monday.

Governor Walker today directed attention to the fact that the Ku Klux Klan had offered a reward of $1,500 for the apprehension and conviction of members of the attacking party at the reformatory. It also is understood the same organization has or will offer a similar reward in connection with the recent floggings in Bibb County. JOHN W. HAMMOND.

Will Make Investigation

ATLANTA, Aug. 17.—"I expect to use all the power of my office to prevent disorder and lawlessness in Georgia," Governor Walker said today on hearing of the lynching of Lee Green in Houston County. The Governor said he would make an investigation. He announced no official reports had been received at his office.

The Governor said any good citizen regrets lynchings, as the courts should be permitted to proced in an orderly manner, no matter how trying the circumstances may be, in some instances.

Ten Officially Hanged in State, Constitution's 1922 Report

9-12-23

Officially, only ten people met their death by hanging in the state of Georgia last year, 1922, inclusive of both legal executions and illegal hangings, or lynchings.

These figures, while they are believed far too low, particularly in the legal hangings, are the total of such deaths which have been properly reported to the state bureau of vital statistics.

If there were any others who died at the end of a rope, either their bodies have never been buried, or the interment has been illegal. For, under the laws of Georgia, a person cannot be legally buried without the filing of a certificate of death, giving the cause, and the securing of a burial permit.

According to these figures, burial permits for ten persons whose lives had ended suddenly by hanging, were issued in the state during the year.

Of the legal hangings, two were in Fulton county, one white male and one negro male, and one negro male was hanged in each of Hart, Morgan and Wilkinson counties.

Illegal hangings, in each case the victim being a negro male, took place in Barrow, Columbia, Miller, Johnson and Monroe counties.

The department of vital statistics has been unable to check these figures through any other state department, both the prison commission and the governor's office not having any record of cases where no appeal for clemency is made.

Eastman Times-Journal
AUG 23 1923

TWO NEGROES LYNCHED FRIDAY

ONE SLAIN NEAR COCHRAN, OTHER NEAR WELLSTON. LEE GREEN TAKEN FROM MACON DETECTIVES AT ECHECONEE. HARRIS TAKEN FROM JAIL.

Macon, Ga., Aug. 18.—Two Macon negroes were victims of lynch law in Middle Georgia yesterday.

The victims were Lee Green, charged with criminal assault upon a promient Wellston woman, and Aaron Harris, serving twenty years for assaulting a woman here in 1921.

Green was put to death at Wellston, after being taken from officers at Echoconee. Harris was seized by a mob that broke its way into the Bleckley County jail at Cochran, carrying him 14 miles from that town, where he was put to death.

Green Arrested Thursday.

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Breaks Hole in Jail Wall.

Sheriff Jones of Bleckley county was out of the city at the time of the assault on the jail and the mob is said to have worked for more than two hours sawing bars and making a hole in the side of the jail through which they entered and secured their prisoner.

Harris was taken some distance from town and trung to a limb of a tree which had been used by a mob in a previous lynching.

Lee Green, the negro who was lynched by a Houston County mob, was charged with having attacked a white woman in her home near Wellston July 4, about 7 o'clock in the evening.

The woman had been to Macon and as she walked into the front hall, she was seized by some one. She did not see her assailant and sustained a severe blow on the head which rendered her unconscious.

Track dogs took up the trail which led from the house and after a few hours the trail was lost. City and county authorities in the neighboring counties were notified and search was made for the negro, though no definite description was given at the time.

Held at Echoconnee.

City Detective Stevens was requested by Houston County officials to work on the case and had been on trail of the negro for more than a month. The negro was finally located at work on the night shift at the Schofield foundry and his arrest was made Thursday night about 8 o'clock.

The negro was taken to the city barracks and utmost secrecy was maintained by city authorities for fear of mob violence. Detective Stevens with J. J. Fann, of the detective force, left Macon yesterday morning about 8 o'clock for Perry. Every precaution was taken to prevent mob violence, they stated, and Sheriff Chapman was not notified of the arrest nor was he told that the officers were bringing the negro to Perry.

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"As soon as I saw them," said Stevens, "I grabbed the negro by the back of the neck and told him, 'Get down in the bottom of the car and stay there.' At the same time I called to Fann. 'Give her the gas'. When Fann opened up he barely missed one of the men who tried to stop us in the middle of the road.

Big Car Blocks Road.

"We got by them all right," Stevens said, "and I thought that we had gotten away. I looked back and saw instead of two or three cars, fifteen or twenty cars, all in pursuit of us."

The officers in the car with the negro said that they ran their car as fast as they could and were gaining on the cars behind when at the E. J. Willingham Place, a large touring car left the other cars and passed them. About 500 yards ahead of the detectives' car, the men in the larger car threw it across the road and pulled their guns on the approaching car containing the negro.

One of the men said, "Stop, or we will all go to hell together." The other cars drove up behind the detectives' automobile and they found themselves hemmed in, front and back.

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Find Body Hanging From Tree.

Stevens went to a nearby farmhouse and phoned Chief of Detectives Ed Chambliss, who ordered Stevens and Fann to follow the mob. They lost track of the cars, but followed the road to Wellston. At Wellston the-

Lynchings—1923. II 1543 Georgia. 1543

Cases of.

heard the reports of hundreds of shots, after waiting there about fifteen minutes, and were told by two men there that no automobiles had passed that way.

They proceeded in the direction of the shots and found the negro hanging to a tree dead. Hundreds of shots had been fired at him from the appearance of the trees in the vicinity.

According to information from Wellston more than 300 people took part in lynching the negro and immediately dispersed. The scene of the lynching was within the sight of the house where the crime is alleged to have been committed.

Sheriff Chapman of Houston county was not present at hour after the shooting took place, but a number of his deputies were there shortly afterwards.

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Green, after coming to Macon, had talked to three Macon negroes who reported the matter to Detective Stevens, but at no time had he made an actual confession of the crime. The negro was unable to tell a straightforward story of his actions on July 4, however.

Cochran Journal

AUG 23 1923

Negro Taken From Jail And Lynched

BAND OF MASKED MEN BREAK JAIL AND TAKE NEGRO DURING SHERIFF'S ABSENCE

Thursday night a band of masked men dug a large hole throgh the side of the County Jail house surrounding the cells, where the prisoners are kept, entered the jail, sawed a hole through the gate of the cell in which Aaron Harris, a negro convict had been placed that afternoon, carried him from the jail to a point on the Dublin road about ten or eleven miles East of Cochran, and hung him to a limb of a walnut tree standing right on the side of the public highway. The body was found the next morning riddled with bullets from head to foot. The negro was hanging by his feet with his head down, a rope tied around both his legs and neck.

We secured the following statement from Sheriff Jones: "Aaron Harris was a twenty year prisoner sent up from Bibb County and was a trusty on the Bleckley County chain-gang. The gang was located near the residence of a prominent farmer. On the day of the following mentioned incident, the gang was working near the ladies' residence and it is alleged that the aforesaid negro went to the house Wednesday afternoon just before knocking off time to get a bucket of water. He entered the house, made an insulting proposition and chased the lady occupant from the house."

Sheriff Jones further states that the mob came to the jail about eleven o'clock Thursday night or little thereafter. They came in automobiles and all of them were masked, demanded the jail keys from his daughter, Miss Ruth Jones. She told them she did not know where the keys were. They asked her where the keys were kept and she replied, "hanging on the closet door in the kitchen in the day time, and they were carried up stairs at night, and when the family left home in the day time, the keys were left with Mr. Ash Rozier, who lives across the street from the jail." They accordingly made a search for the keys, but could not find them. Miss Ruth went back up stairs and left the mob, and in a few minutes heard them hammering on the outside wall of the jail surrounding the cells where the prisoners are kept. It is alleged that they secured tools from the City Power Plant, forcing the negro watchman there to get the tools for them. It is stated that they worked at the job about two hours, making the hole in the brick wall of the jail through which they entered. It was about one o'clock A. M. or a little after when they reached the cell containing the negro. The combination was on the lock of this cell, and the negro was in there alone. They sawed three bars to the cell gate in two, making a hole large enough to get the negro out.

Sheriff Jones states, that he went to Bowers cemetery to attend a funeral Thursday afternoon, and did not know of the crime the negro had committed until J. A. Floyd told him that Commissioner Dykes requested him to tell him to go out to the convict camp as quick as possible and get the negro and put him in jail, that he had received a wire from Prison Board to have the negro put in jail, and call the Judge to come up and order a special term of court to try him.

Sheriff Jones stated that Sheriff Mullis from Dodge County was at the funeral and he asked him to ride out to the camp with him. He did so, and the two sheriffs went to the camp, got the negro and brought him to Cochran and located him in jail Thursday about sun-down. The Sheriff states that about nine o'clock that night he and his wife left Cochran in his automobile to carry Sheriff Mullis to Eastman, that he returned to Cochran about 1:30 A. M. and saw the mob crossing the street near the Baptist Church leaving Cochran on the Dublin road.

Commissioner Dykes' Statement

The following statement was made by Commissioner, J. P .Dykes:

"The gang was working on the road from Mulllis' store to Allentown, about nine miles North-east of Cochran Wednesday afternoon about 6:30 P. M. I was with the gang on the road and saw the lady leave her house going out the back way through the field towards a neighbor's residence. I paid no particular attention to this, as we were working the road there, and all the machines, tools, and gang being there, thought that was the reason she did not go down the road, as she at that time made no alarm. I understand the lady came through the house and went to the front door to make an alarm, but at that time the guards had moved from in front of house down under the hill about two hundred yards from the house. A few minutes after seeing the lady leave the house, her husband came to the road where we were working; just at that time I left the road in company with Mayor H .F. Bullard.

"I understand that the lady's mother told her daughter that her husband had just come out to the road, and she went out there, called him off to one side and reported the matter to him. He then went and told Warden Collier about it. At that time the gang was leaving the road for the camp. Warden Collier called Newman, the convict gard, and told him what the husband said. After several conferences with parties hearing statement of the affair from the lady, they concluded it was true.

"Warden Collier went home and called my residence over the phone about 10:30 P. M., and was informed that I was at the house. He left word to tell me to come out to his house at once. I was informed of this when I reached home, so I went to Collier's house that night, reaching there about eleven o'clock P. M. I talked over the situation with the Warden and concluded to go to the lady's house for further investigation. I reached there about twelve o'clock midnight. It was stated there, that the negro came to the well for water several times during the day. At one of these times he asked the lady for some soda, and at another for some potatoes. It was stated the last time he went for water he made improper proposals and started in the house after her. After having conference at the lady's house that night, I was confident that the negro had done just what was stated to me, and I came to town and wired Secretary Yancey the following telegram: 'Aaron Harris, water boy insulted and attempted to assault a lady yesterday when he went for water. Please notify me at once what to do, as you know the feeling in Georgia'. Mr. Yancey replied: 'Confine Aaron Harris in jail and notify your judge'.

After receiving the telegram I went out to where Warden Collier was working on a bridge at Evergreen with the gang. I showed him the telegram and told him I would go back to Cochran and notify Sheriff Jones to be around about 6:30 o'clock, that I had already notified you to bring the prisoner in to him. When I got to Cochran I found that the Sheriff was not in the city, and mentioned the matter to J. A. Floyd, Clerk of the Court. Mr. Floyd told me that Mr. Jones had gone to a funeral at Bowers graveyard and as he was going down there he would tell him about it. Sheriff Mullis, of Dodge County, was at the funeral also, and after Mr. Floyd told Sheriff Jones about the matter, all three of them came to Cochran, and Sheriff Jones told me they would go out to the camp and get the negro. I informed them that I had notified Collier to bring him in, but they stated they would go after him."

Lynchings — 1923 Louisiana. 1548

Cases of. (11)

Lynched For Alleged Association With White Women

St Louis Argus.

Preston News Service 1/12/23.

SHREVEPORT, La., Jan. 9.—Leslie Legget was kidnapped last Wednesday night by a band of masked men and taken to southern outskirts of this city, lynched and his body riddled with bullets.

According to reports Legget was seized at a garage and placed in an automobile by his five white abductors and spirited away. Earlier in the evening, four men had called for him at the garage.

Police Chief Basar said complaints had been reaching his office that Legget was in the habit of associating with white women. Police have been "shadowing" him for some time, but had failed to obtain sufficient evidence to warrant his arrest the official said.

The police claim that Legget is a Negro and had been frequently arrested and booked as such, but Chas. Papa, a white grocer, for whom Legget worked and in whose house he roomed, said he was a Spaniard. It is said that he was known in the Negro section as "Yellow Lester."

KIDNAPPED AND KILLED BY LOUISIANA BAND

New York Globe

Negro or Spaniard Riddled by Bullets—Accused of Consorting With White Women.

1-5-23

SHREVEPORT, La., Jan. 4.—Leslie Legett, a negro or Spaniard, was lynched either last night or early today by a party of men who kidnapped him. His body was found today in the southern part of the city riddled with bullets.

Legett was seized at a garage and placed in an automobile by his five white abductors and spirited away.

Police Chief Bazer said complaints had been received that Legett was associating with white women. Police have been "shadowing" him but had failed to obtain enough evidence to warrant his arrest.

The police said Legett was a negro, but Charles Papa, white grocer for whom he worked, and in whose house he roomed, said he was a Spaniard.

Dead Found After Being Kidnapped

1/13/23

SHREVEPORT, La., Jan. 4.—Leslie Leggett was lynched either Wednesday night or early Thursday by a party of men who kidnapped him Wednesday night. His body was found in the southern part of the city, riddled with bullets. New York News

Called outside of a garage, where he was employed, Leggett, 35, was forced into an automobile by five white men about 7.30 p. m. and spirited away.

Police had received several complaints of late that Leggett was associating with white women, and this is believed to have prompted the action.

Lynchings—1923
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Mississippi

1545

2 LYNCHED IN 2 DAYS

WITHIN 1ST WEEK OF 1923—IN MISS. & LA.—NO RAPE EVEN CHARGED—ONE WAS BEING TAKEN TO JAIL "FOR TRIAL"

The Guardian 1/6/23

Hattiesburg, Miss., Jan. 3, 1923.—Ben Webster, a Colored man, was taken from an east-bound passenger train on the Alabama and Vicksburg railroad at Lawrence last night by a band of about 25 masked men and his body was found this morning hanging from a bridge about two miles from Waynesboro.

He was charged with the murder of a road contractor named Alford of Hazelhurst, Miss., last November at Waynesboro. He was being taken to Waynesboro for trial.

In Louisiana

Shreveport, La., Jan. 4, 1923.—Leslie Legett, a Colored man, was lynched by a party of men who kidnapped him last night. His body was found in the southern part of the city today riddled with bullets.

Mob Enters Train to Get Negro Prisoner

Atlanta Georgian 1-4-23

MERIDIAN, Miss., Jan. 3.—Ben Webster, a negro, charged with the murder of a man named Alton, in Wayne County, was taken from an Alabama & Vicksburg train Tuesday night, by a number of masked men, and probably lynched, according to a story told here by a deputy sheriff, who was taking the negro from Jackson, where he had been in jail for safekeeping, for trial at Waynesboro.

The deputy stated that eight or ten men, wearing masks, entered the train, covered the conductor with a revolver and tore the negro loose from him.

They then left the train and were met by a large number outside, who took the negro away in an automobile.

NEGRO IS TAKEN FROM OFFICERS AND LYNCHED

Commercial Appeal Memphis Tenn

Masked Men Invade Train and Get Waynesboro Black.

1-4-23 Rec

MERIDIAN, Miss., Jan. 3.—So swiftly and so quietly did a masked band of men work when they forced Deputy Sheriff T. M. Holsten, of Waynesboro, to give up his prisoner, Ben Webster, negro, whose body was found swinging from a bridge near Waynesboro today, that passengers aboard the Alabama and Vicksburg train, from which he was taken, were unaware of what had taken place until after the train had pulled out of the little town of Lawrence, 25 miles west of Meridian, and the men and their prisoner had boarded waiting automobiles and disappeared.

Deputy Sheriff Holsten boarded the train at Jackson, having in custody the negro, who had been kept there for safety until his trial could be held at Waynesboro on a charge of murdering Frank Alford, road contractor, several months ago. When the train arrived at Lawrence it was held by threats of the masked band until they could enter the negro coach and at the point of their guns disarm the deputy, taking possession of the black and departing.

The negro was roped and manacled, an end of the rope being tied around the arm of the deputy sheriff, when the masked men with drawn revolvers entered the negro coach after commanding the conductor to hold the train on threat of death.

The men hid their identity behind handkerchiefs tied over the lower part of their faces. Just as they were leaving the train one of them handed a member of the train crew a pistol that had been snatched from the deputy with the request that it be returned to him, which was done.

WAYNESBORO, Miss., Jan. 3.—The body of Ben Webster, negro, who was taken from Deputy Sheriff T. M. Holsten aboard an Alabama and Vicksburg train by a band of masked men, was found hanging from a bridge about two miles from here this morning by some negro boys. The boys were crossing a private bridge over Yellow Creek two and a half miles northwest of Waynesboro, when they heard their dog bark at something, and discovered the body of the negro.

On Sunday morning, during the early part of November, the negro, Ben Webster shot and killed Frank Alford, a prominent road contractor, of Hazlehurst, on the streets of Waynesboro. Afterward while trying to make his escape in an automobile he was captured between Richton and Hattiesburg by Town Marshal Austin Odom, of Richton, and was then only saved from a mob by Sheriff Crosby slipping him off to Jackson, where he had since been confined in the county jail for safe keeping.

The grand jury in session here this week had indicted him and the deputy sheriff was sent to Jackson to return him here for trial. The news that he had been taken from the officer came as a surprise as it was thought by Circuit Judge Miller that outside of himself the only ones knowing that the deputy had been sent for him was the sheriff and deputy, but the information leaked out in some manner.

Three other negroes, Ike Odom, Jeff Brunner and Kearney Slay, who were in the auto with Ben Webster, when the killing of Mr. Alford took place, have also been indicted and are confined in the Meridian jail for safekeeping, but it is not known just what steps will be taken now to bring them here for trial.

After the finding of the body of the negro, Sheriff Crosby had an inquest held and it is reported that the verdict of the coroner's jury was that the deceased came to his death at the hands of persons unknown to the jury. It is supposed the negro was brought through the country last night by automobile, a distance of about 80 miles.

COLORED MAN LYNCHED

Richmond Planet

Masked Men Take Prisoner

Richmond Va.

from Passenger Train.

1-6-23 Rec

Hattiesburg, Miss., Jan. 3.—Ben Webster, colored was taken from an eastbound passenger train on the Alabama and Vicksburg Railroad at Lawrence last night by a band of about twenty-five masked men and his body was found this morning hanging from a bridge about two miles from Waynesboro, Wayne County, and a distance of some twenty-five miles from Lawrence according to reports reaching here today.

Webster was roped and manacled, an end of the rope being tied around the arm of the deputy sheriff, when the masked men, with drawn revolvers entered the colored coach, after demanding the conductor to hold the train on threat of death. Webster was charged with the murder of Road Contractor Alford, of Hazelhurst, Miss. last November at Waynesboro. He was being taken to Waynesboro for trial.

Taken From Sheriff And Hanged From Tree

New York News 1/13/23

HATTIESBURG, Miss., Jan. 11.—Ben Webster was taken from an eastbound passenger train on the Alabama & Vicksburg Railroad at Lawrence by a band of about twenty-five masked men and his body was found in the morning hanging from a bridge about two miles from Waynesboro, Wayne county, and a distance of some twenty-five miles from Lawrence, according to reports reaching here recently.

The man was roped and manacled, an end of the rope being tied around the arm of the deputy sheriff, when the masked men with drawn revolvers entered the jimcrow car after commanding the conductor to hold the train on threat of death.

It was believed the prisoner was taken in an automobile from the train to the spot where his body was found.

Webster was charged with the murder of a road contractor by the name of Alford of Hazelhurst, Mississippi last November, at Waynesboro. He was being taken to Waynesboro for trial.

Slayer Is Lynched By Mississippi Mob

Atlanta Georgian 1-13

MERIDIAN, Miss., Jan. 3.—The body of Ben Webster, a negro, was found swinging from a bridge over the Chickashaw, two miles from Waynesboro, Wednesday.

While in the custody of a deputy sheriff last night, en route from Jackson to Waynesboro to stand trial for murder, the negro was taken from the train by a band of masked men and lynched.

Taken From Train and Murdered

Chicago Defender

Hattiesburg, Miss., Jan. 21.—Taken from an eastbound Alabama & Vicksburg passenger train by a band of 25 masked men at Lawrence, Ben Webster, section hand, was strung up and hanged from a bridge about two miles from Waynesboro. The men took him almost 25 miles from Lawrence before killing him. 1/13/23

Webster was roped and manacled, an end of the rope being tied around the arm of the deputy sheriff from whom the mob took him when the hooded slayers entered the Jim Crow coach after commanding the conductor to hold the train on threat of death.

Charges against Webster were to the effect that he had killed Road Contractor Alford, Hazlehurst, Miss., last November. He was being taken to Waynesboro for trial.

No signs of the Ku Klux Klan other than masks were found. It is freely said, however, that the klan was responsible for the murder. No member of the mob has been arrested.

Lynched En Route to Trial

Chicago Tribune 1-21-23 Rec

JACKSON, MISS., Jan. 20.—Lynch law frustrated justice here last week when Ben Webster was lynched while being carried to trial for killing Jim Arnold, white, whom he shot in self-defense.

MOB LYNCHES NEGRO NEAR ASHLAND, MISS

Reported Tennesseans Members of Mysterious Mob.

Rec

BLUE MOUNTAIN, Miss., June 11.—A mob of about eight men took a negro from the custody of Benton County jail at Ashland, yesterday, carried the black about one mile from town, strung him up and shot him to death.

According to the meager details available, Sheriff W. T. Craft was roused about 3 o'clock Sunday morning by two men, who stated that they had a prisoner for the sheriff. Responding to their call, Sheriff Craft, it is said, was then asked for his keys. His suspicions thus aroused, he declined to deliver the keys, whereupon the two men asked him for permission to find the keys for themselves, which they succeeded in doing.

Going to the cell in which the negro was confined, the two men asked him, it is reported, if he was the negro who stabbed and killed Byrd, a white man from Tennessee, working on the Bankhead Highway between Ashland and Michigan City last winter. The black admitting that he was the man, the two men said that was all they wanted to know, taking the negro from the jail to where the rest of the mob waited in cars, and hurry-ing away with him.

The killing of the white man, Byrd, which happened in February of this year, seemed to have been shrouded in mystery. The brief press reports at the time seemed to indicate that Byrd had lost some property, had suspected the negro of having gotten it, and while attempting to search the black, it is said, he was stabbed by the negro, dying from the wounds. The tragedy took place between Ashland and Michigan city, the two men working at the time for the Bankhead Highway construction gang. The white man who was killed by the negro lived in Tennessee and had been working for some time in Benton County. The negro was a citizen of the county where the crime was committed.

Immediately after the execution of the black man the mob took to their cars and drove eastward toward Ripley. It is supposed by some citizens that the men of the mob were from Tennessee and were determined to administer justice in their own way for the murder of the white man by the negro.

It has not been possible to obtain complete details of the work of the mob, since Ashland is inland and has no telephonic connection with the outside. The name of the negro has not been obtained yet, neither has the Tennessee residence of the white man killed by the black last winter.

NEGRO BORNED AT STAKE ON SUNDAY

Montgomery

Accused of Attacking White Woman with Axe Near Mississippi City

Advertiser

YAZOO CITY, MISS., July 29.—Willie Minnifield, negro, was burned at the stake here at 11 o'clock this morning by a mob which accused him of attacking a white woman 20 miles southeast of here with an axe early last night and inflicting wounds which physicians believe will prove fatal. The victim was Mrs. William Russell of Myrleville. 7-30-23

Minnifield and another negro were captured by a posse in a swamp near here at 10 o'clock this morning. According to members of the posse, the other negro, whose name is unknown and who later escaped, declared that he stood outside Mrs. Russell's home while Minnifield went in to attack the woman.

Minnifield was taken from the posse by a mob, brought here, tied to a stake and burned to death.

A posse took up the pursuit of the negro who escaped and who is said to have made the alleged confession involving Minnifield.

NEGRO IS BURNED AT STAKE IN MISSISSIPPI

Murderously Attacked Wife of Storekeeper With Ax.

TRAILED BY BLOODHOUNDS

Two Blacks Captured and One Said to Have Confessed Acted as Lookout and Later Escapes, Is Hunted by Posse.

YAZOO CITY, Miss., July 29.—Willie Minnifeld, negro, was burned to death at the stake at 11 o'clock this morning, following his capture after a murderous attack with an ax on Mrs. William Russell at Myrleville, 20 miles southeast of here.

Minnifeld entered the home of Mr. Russell about 9 o'clock last night when Mrs. Russell was in bed asleep and committed his attack. There was a small boy in another room who was not awakened by the negro.

Finds Wife in Trunk.

When Mr. Russell came home about midnight he found his wife in a trunk. Signs showed that Mrs. Russell had wandered around through the house and evidently had tried to get something from the trunk to bind her wound and lost consciousness. Mr. Russell immediately called the officers and the doctor. Mrs. Russell was taken to the hospital here, and physicians say that she cannot recover.

The sheriff telephoned to Crystal Springs for Bob Gant's bloodhounds, and they were placed on the trail. They cornered two negroes in a swamp close to Myrleville, wearing bloody overalls.

They were arrested, and the companion of Minnifeld, according to the officers, confessed that he had staid outside the house while Minnifeld wen in. Later in the excitement attending the lynching of Minnifeld the other negro escaped and is now being hunted by several posses.

The people here and in the county are much excited and feeling runs high. If this negro is captured another lynching appears certain.

NEGRO GETS AWAY FROM LYNCHERS

White Posse Burns His Accomplice "Buster" Dumas Escapes Into Swamps About Myrleville

YAZOO CITY, MISS., July 30—An all day search in the Big Black river swamps about Myrleville today for "Buster" Dumas, alleged accomplice of Will Menefee, who was lynched yesterday after he is alleged to have attacked Mrs. William Russell, wife of a Myrleville planter with an axe, failed to reveal a trace of the fugitive who escaped from a posse yesterday by slipping a rope from his neck and making a dash for liberty while Menefee was being burned by citizens who had captured the two negroes in the Dumas cabin.

Search for the negro continued tonight.

Mrs. Russell, who was brought to a hospital when she was found unconscious in the Russell home late Saturday night, was reported in a critical condition tonight but with slight hope for her recovery.

No inquest has as yet been held in connection with the death of Menefee. Menefee, a tenant farmer, is one of several negroes who are alleged to have attempted to break their contracts with the planter and go to Chicago several weeks ago. Menefee and the others were overtaken by the planter at Jackson and induced to return to the Russell plantation. The fact that Menefee was intercepted and returned to the plantation is not believed to have prompted the attack on the planter's wife. A reward of $500 dollars has been offered for the capture of Dumas.

Vicksburg Herald

JUL 31 1923

ONE NEGRO LYNCHED, ACCOMPLICE ESCAPES

WILL MENEFEE ATTACKS WIFE OF PLANTER WITH AXE

MRS. WM. RUSSELL MAY DIE

"Buster" Dumas Slips Rope From Neck As Menefee Was Being Burned At Myrleville

Yazoo City, Miss., July 30.—An all day search in the Big Black River swamps about Myrleville today for "Buster" Dumas, alleged accomplice of Will Menefee, who was lynched yesterday after he is alleged to have attacked Mrs. William Russell, wife of a Myrleville planter, with an axe, failed to reveal trace of the fugitive, who escaped from a posse yesterday by slipping a rope from his neck and making a dash for liberty while Menefee was being burned by citizens who had captured the two negroes in the Dumas cabin.

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A reward of $500 has been offered to the captor of Dumas.

Possemen declare the negroes were burning overalls which, it is claimed, were stained with blood. A mob of about fifty men, according to reports received here, took the two negroes from the posse and the burning followed.

No attempt was made at criminal assault on Mrs. Russell, citizens of Myrleville declare. The motive for the attack has not been learned.

NEW YORK HERALD
JULY 30, 1923

NEGRO BURNED AT STAKE.

Accused of Attacking Mississippi White Woman With Ax.

YAZOO CITY, Miss., July 29.—Willie Minnifield, negro, was burned at the stake here at 11 o'clock this morning by a mob, which accused him of attacking a white woman twenty miles southeast of here with an axe early last night, inflicting wounds which physicians believe will be fatal.

ANOTHER MOVE FOR AN EXODUS.

The Negro Star

(By The Associated Negro Press)

YAZOO CITY, MISS., Aug. 10—A frenzied mob burned Willie Minnifield at the stake last Saturday night. The young Negro was accused of attacking a white woman with an ax and otherwise mutilating her. She was expected to die from her injuries.

10,000 FLEE AS MAN IS BURNED AT THE STAKE

Yazoo City Burns Man To Death As Citizens Leave

YAZOO CITY, Miss, July 29. — Ten thousand colored persons, including women and children are said to have left the vicinity of Yazoo City since Sunday, following the burning at the stake of Willie Minnifield in a swamp near here.

The imigrants left in all sorts of conveyances, railroads, automobiles, ox carts and some on foot. Few of them remained long enough to dispose of their possessions, some even leaving crops on the ground.

Accused of Attack

Minnifield, who was found fishing in the swamp, was accused of attacking a woman with an ax at a point twenty-six miles distant. There was no indication to prove that he was the criminal. When the posse discovered him, he was in company with another man. Both were seized and charged with the crime. Minnifield's companon escaped, and angered because he had slipped from their clutches, the mob prepared to burn Minnifield.

He was dragged to a cleared space in the swamp and a stake was driven into the gound to whichr he was tied.

tied. Brush wood was then piled around the man until only his head was visible. A match was set to the brush, and as the flames crackled around the man, the woods resounded with the shouts of the mob.

As the flames died down, leaving the victim's charred skeleton lying upon the embers, the mob took up the chase of the man who had escaped

At a late hour Tuesday no investigation had been made by State or County authorities into Minnifield's murder.

LYNCHED IN MISS.

The Guardian

CLAIM A "CONFESSION"

8-25-23

Sardis, Miss., Aug., 1923.—Howard Flotow was taken from the county jail late last night by a mob and hanged to a tree just north of town. Officials say he confessed to an attack upon a white woman of this city.

Posse on Trail Two

Carthage, Ind.—A posse made up of farmers and officials, estimated to number about 500, was searched today for two Negroes who are alleged to have attacked the sixteen-year-old daughter of Walter Aldridge, a white girl, at Sexton, near here, late last night. Bloodhounds are being used.

MISSISSIPPI NEGRO LYNCHED TODAY

The Chicago Defender

Sardis, Miss., August 25—Howard Flotow, negro, was taken from the county jail here late last night by a mob and hanged to a tree just north of town. Officials say the negro confessed to an attack upon a white woman of this city.

MISSISSIPPI BURNS VICTIM AT THE STAKE

Mob is Judge and Jury to Man Accused of Attacking Wife of his White Employer With Ax

8/3/23

BLOODHOUNDS LEAD WAY

Baltimore Sun

Dead Man Started North in June, but Employer forced his Return South

Myreisville, Miss., Aug. 2—All churches in this neighborhood were empty Sunday when a crowd of white farmers dragged William. Minnefield, a farm hand to a swamp near here and burned him at the stake.

Minnefield was nearly dead from the blows of various weapons in the hands of the crowd before he was tied to the stake and the kerosene swamp awaiting the gathering of a his cries, when the flames reached ... carried in the still morning air for a mile.

The farmhand was charged with attempted murder of the wife of William Russil, his white employer and owner of several stores. When Russell found his wife, she was unable to make a statement. Bloodhounds were secured and the trail led to Minnefiel'ds shack, several miles away.

Protesting his innocence, the farmhand was carried off to the swamp awaiting the gathring of a large crowd of men who had taken part in the chase.

White farmers here say revenge is the motive for Minnefield's act. Early in June, they declare he decided to move North and secure better employment, without consulting Russell to whom he owed a small account. Minnefield got as far as Jackson, where he startedou as Jackson, where he was arrested at the instigation of his employer and forced to return. Russell, it is declared, stated that he would use every means to keep his farmhands from going North.

Lynchings—1923. Mississippi. 1546

Cases of.

NEGRO GIRL SHOT DOWN BY A MOB AT PICKENS

Commercial Appeal

Citizens Aroused and Man-hunt Agreed On

JACKSON, Miss., Oct. 6.—Outraged white citizens of Pickens, Holmes County, Miss., have organized themselves to track down and bring to justice nine members of a mob of white men who shot to death an 18-year-old negro girl.

Details of the crime have never been printed. It occurred at a negro dwelling in the outskirts of Pickens, on Saturday night, Sept. 31, and the informant who gave the story to The Commercial Appeal correspondent was unable to supply names. The white citizens he said are thoroughly aroused and at a public meeting this week denounced the crime in most scathing terms and have pledged themselves to leave nothing undone to uncover the identity of the perpetrators and bring them to the punishment they deserve.

10-7-23

This atrocious mob-murder grew out of a trivial incident. A white man had loaned a young negro 50 cents on the negro's promise to pay it back by picking cotton. The negro failed to show up to pick cotton at the appointed time and the white man went after him. The negro promised to pay him, fixing last Saturday as date of payment. On Saturday afternoon the negro went to the white man and gave him the 50 cents. "You owe me 10 cents more," said the lender. "For what?" asked the negro. "For interest. Come across with it." The negro tartly replied that he would not pay it. Whereupon the white man, who was changing a tire on his car struck the negro over the head with a wrench. The negro ran a few steps and picked up a brick, brandishing it to cover his retreat, he left the scene.

Memphis Press

Riddled Negro's House

About 9 o'clock the same night, citizens of Pickens were aroused by a fusillade of pistol shots, and on investigation went to the scene of the shooting, where they found the home of the young negro who figured in the affair with the white man, literally riddled with bullet holes and lying out a score of yards from the house was the body of the negro girl who had been shot to death as she ran screaming from her home, fleeing for safety. The young negro and his father, getting wind of the approach of the mob, had left the house and were hiding out in a field nearby, leaving the girl and her mother in the deluded belief that the mob would not harm them when they found the boy they were hunting was gone.

There were 28 bullet holes counted in one door, and many others penetrated the walls about the house. The girl ran out in plain view of the mob, who had come out for blood, and she was deliberately shot to death in her helpless terror. She was not killed by chance shots. Her fleeing form was coolly and deliberately chosen as a target, for she was in woman's attire, screaming her appeals for mercy and was shot some distance from the dwelling into which the fusillade had been fired.

When the details of this murder became known among the people of Pickens, intense indignation was aroused. So deeply was the stigma of such a crime felt that publicity of it was shunned and the citizen body determined to proceed in their own way to wipe the stain of it from their good name. Calls for a mass meeting were answered by an outpouring of the people. The resolutions adopted by the meeting demanded speedy justice for the members of the mob who were characterized as "white-skinned brutes," and a unanimous pledge was given to use every means possible to identify the members of the mob, who were believed to be nine in number. Confidence is expressed that every single participant will be identified, and the severest penalty of the law is demanded.

The next Holmes County grand jury will make an investigation of the affair.

VICTIM OF LYNCHED NEGRO NOT BADLY HURT

Commercial Appeal

Black Taken From Officers and Shot Near Richton.

9-19-23

HATTIESBURG, Miss., Sept. 18.—Information received here late this afternoon from Richton, the home of Z. W. Walley, who yesterday was shot three times by a negro named John Gray, who was later shot to death by a number of outraged citizens, was to the effect that Mr. Walley's condition is not serious, although he was shot three times, and that he has a good chance of recovery.

Mr. Walley was hit once in the neck, once in the hand and once in the forehead by the negro who asked him for a ride in his car.

Mr. Walley stated that he thinks the motive for the negro's assault on him was robbery of his car.

According to the story told by Mr. Walley, who is a contractor and timber man, Gray asked him to drive him to a turpentine still some distance from Richton. Mr. Walley was in Richton and was going the way the negro wanted to ride, and let him go.

On the return trip the negro was riding on the back seat and opened fire with a revolver without warning when they had reached a spot not far from Richton. The gun began to snap after the third shot, and the negro grappled with Mr. Walley and beat him over the head with the pistol, but then became frightened and ran.

Mr. Walley was able to drive his car back to town and there told the story of the attack upon him. Officers learned that a taxi driver had taken the negro who did the shooting back through Richton and from there to his home near Ovett. They went to the negro's home and were returning to New Augusta with him, when they were overtaken by a large band of citizens, who took him from the officers and shot him to death.

The officers were notified this morning that the negro's body was found by the roadside between New Augusta and Richton.

Mississippi Lynches One

Hattiesburg, Miss., Sept. 20.—John Gray, aged 18, was taken away from police officers by a mob of whites and shot to death. He was accused of fighting and shooting a white physician.

MISSISSIPPI MOB KILLS A YOUNG GIRL

St. Louis Mo.

Eighteen Year Old Colored Girl Deliberately Shot Down When Fleeing From Home Where Blood-Thirsty Mob Seeks Brother After Trivial Dispute.

10-12-23

JACKSON, Miss., Oct. 10.—The town of Pickens, Holmes county, has become aroused over the shooting to death of an 18-year old colored girl. Details of the crime have never been printed. It occured at the home of Negroes on the outskirts of Pickens Saturday night, September 29th, and the victims name has not been given out.

An Atrocious Murder

This atrocious mob-murder grew out of a trivial incident. A white man had loaned a young Negro 50 cents on the Negro's promise to pay it back by picking cotton. The Negro failed to show up to pick cotton at the appointed. It occured at the home of after him. The Negro promised to pay him, fixing last Saturday as date of payment. On Saturday afternoon the Negro went to the white man and gave him the 50 cents. "You owe me 10 cents more," said the lender. "For what?" asked the Negro. "For interest. Come across with it." The Negro tartly replied that he would not pay it. Whereupon the white man who was changing a tire on his car, struck the Negro over the head with a wrench. The Negro ran a few steps and picked up a brick, brandishing it to cover his retreat, he left the scene.

House Riddled With Bullets

About 9 o'clock the same night, citizens of Pickens were aroused by a fusillade of pistol shots, and on investigation went to the scene of the shooting, where they found the home of the young Negro who figured in the affair with the white man, literally riddled with bullet holes and lying out a score of yards from the house was the body of the Negro girl who had been shot to death as she ran screaming from her home, fleeing for safety. The young Negro and his father, getting wind of the approach of the mob, had left the house and were hiding out in a field nearby, leaving the girl and her mother in the deluded belief that the mob would not harm them when they found the boy they were hunting was gone.

There were 28 bullet holes counted in one door, and many others penetrated the walls about the house. The girl ran out in plain view of the mob, who had come out for blood, and she was deliberately shot to death in her helpless terror. She was not killed by chance shots. Her fleeing form was coolly and deliberately chosen as a target, for she was in woman's attire, screaming her appeals for mercy and was shot some distance from the dwelling into which the fusillade had been fired.

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The next Holmes County grand jury will make an investigation of the affair.

NEGRO LYNCHED FOR ATTACK ON PERRY CITIZEN

Shot Z. W. Walley Three Times After Bumming Ride; Is Shot to Death By Irate Whites.

John Gray, a negro, 19 or 20 years old, was shot to death last night on the Richton-New Augusta highway by a band of irate citizens who forced officers to turn their prisoner over to them, after Gray had shot Z. W. Walley, of Richton, father of Dr. Willis W. Walley and Dr. Dave Walley, both prominent Jackson, Miss., physicians, yesterday afternoon.

Mr. Walley is not seriously hurt, although he was hit three times, once in the neck, once in the hand, and once in the forehead, by the negro who had asked him for a ride in his car.

Mr. Walley stated that he thinks the motive for the negro's assault on him was robbery of his car.

According to the story told by Mr. Walley, who is a contractor and timber man, Gray asked him to drive him to a turpentine still some distance from Richton. Mr. Walley was in Richton and was going the way the negro wanted to ride, and so let him go.

On the return trip the negro was riding on the back seat and opened fire with a revolver without warning when they had reached a spot not far from Richton. The gun began to snap after the third shot, and the negro grappled with Mr. Walley and beat him over the head with the pistol, but became frightened and ran.

Mr. Walley was able to drive his car back to town and there told the story of the attack upon him.

Officers learned that a taxi driver had taken the negro who did the shooting back through Richton and from there to his home near Ovett. They went to the negro's home and were returning to New Augusta with him when they were overtaken by a large band of white citizens who took him from the officers and shot him to death.

The officers were notified this morning that the negro's body was found by the road side between New Augusta and Richton.

MOB SLAYS COLORED YOUTH

N.Y. News 9-22-23

HATTIESBURG, Miss. — John Gray, colored, 19, was shot to death near here by a band of citizens after they took him from officers who had arrested him in connection with the shooting of Z. W. Walley, a contractor and timberman.

Negro Is Slain.

Hattiesburg, Miss., September 18.—John Gray, 20, a negro, was shot to death last night on the Richton-New August highway by a band of white citizens, who forced officers to turn their prisoner over to them, after Gray had shot W. W. Walley, of Richton, father of Dr. W. A. Walley and Dr. Dave Walley, both prominent Jackson, Miss., physicians.

Mississippi Mobbers Said to Have Lynched 28 Negroes This Year

Facts Kept Secret From Rest Of Country — Father of Latest Victim Driven From Home and Family and Property Confiscated.

WAS HERE THIS WEEK

(Special Correspondence)

JACKSON, Miss, Nov. 2.—Reports have been received here that as many as twenty-five Negroes have been murdered and lynched by white mobs during the past year. News of these lynchings has been prevented from reaching the country. Negroes having knowledge of them have been threatened with summary death if found guilty of reporting the crimes against humanity and the law.

The most recent of these lynchings occurred in Leaflora county. Albert Ransberry was the victim. He was a native of Leaflora county and had been living and working in Detroit as an employe of the Henry Ford plant during the past four years. Ransberry migrated to Detroit where he became a valuable worker and purchased a home for his family, including a wife and six children. The eldest child is fifteen years of age and the youngest four months. He had returned to his native home on a visit to his father, J. W. Ransberry, and family.



J. W. RANSBERRY

Ransberry was lynched Saturday October 6, as the result of an altercation and fight with a white farmer, F. S. Jones, upon whose land the father and family of the victim lived. Ransberry had become proficient as a repairer of traction engines during his residence and employment at the Ford plant in Detroit. While visiting his father and family, the white farmer, Jones, called upon the younger Ransberry to repair a disabled traction engine. The price agreed upon for the work was $25.00. When the job was completed Jones offered Ransberry $15.00 for the work. A fight ensued in which Ransberry gave the white man a good whipping.

Jones collected a mob of his white neighbors and caught the young Negro on his way returning to the farm home of his father, on the Jones plantation. The mob of whites hung Ransberry to a tree and riddled his body with bullets. They then sent a messenger for the father of the young man and pointed to the lifeless, shot-torn body of his son hanging to the tree. They warned the father that he would be given a similar dose if he didn't like it, and abused him otherwise.

Under pressure of the threats of the lynchers, the elder Ransberry was later compelled to dispose of his holdings at a great sacrifice and leave the state. His holdings included 9 mules, a seven-passenger Paige automobile, an automatic hay press valued at $525.00, 30 head of cows, 28 head of hogs, two Jones and Graham wagons, one surry valued at $225.00. The entire property of Ransberry was valued at nearly $10,000. He was a tenant of the white farmer, Jones, and rented 450 acres of land from the white man responsible for the lynching of his son, Albert Ransberry.

MISSISSIPPIANS LEARN LYNCHING FROM WHITES

Man Hanged to Death from River Bridge

JACKSON, Miss., Dec. 1.—Mob rule in the South took a new turn last week when Edward Hardy, a plantation worker near Tunica, Miss., was captured and hanged by an infuriated mob of his fellow workers, members of his own race. Hardy was accused of the brutal murder of Mrs. Eliza Goodrich, an aged woman on the plantation, and the other workers formed a mob and lynched him before officers of the law could arrive at the scene of the killing. He was said to have killed the old woman with an ax and then to have robbed her of $500 which had just been paid her by an insurance company for the death of her husband who had died some time before. The cruel slaying of the woman, who was very popular among the plantation workers as a leader in religious activities, roused their elements to such a pitch that they took the law into their own hands and sought out the alleged murderer.

Body Breaks Rope

Hardy was captured and carried onto the bridge of a river near the plantation. A long rope was tied about his neck and the other end made fast to a girder of the bridge and he was hurled over the side by the lynchers. As he fell thru the air the weight of his body broke the rope and he dropped into the river below. Due to fear of the fury of the mob his relatives made no attempt to recover the body.

Hugh Fountaine, white, owner of the plantation, assisted the mob in the capture of Hardy and then left him in their charge while he went to town to get an officer. He remained away long enough for them to lynch the accused man, which it is believed he expected them to do, and then returned with the officer. He was told by the leaders of the mob that Hardy had been taken down to the Fathers of Waters, and as he stood on the bridge he confessed the crime and then jumped into the river."

Sheriff Gives Body of Prisoner to Negro Mob

(By The Associated Negro Press)

TUHICA, Miss., Nov. 28.—A kindly sheriff is said to have co-operated in the usual way when a crowd of angry Negroes sought to take from him Ed. Hardy, accused of killing an old colored woman and of taking her savings amounting to $500. A cousin of the old woman was in the crowd which clamored at the jail. This man, Sam Harris, hurled a piece of iron which struck Hardy, killing him almost instantly. The sheriff then let the crowd have him. He was buried about half a mile from the jail.

Murderer Of Aged Woman Lynched

Clarksdale, Miss., Nov. 20.—Despite the protests of ministers and other leaders of the Negro race, a large number of Negroes employed on a plantation at Tunica, infuriated over the brutal slaying of Mrs. Eliza Goodrich, an aged Negro woman, formed a mob and before officers could get to the scene of the killing, they took into custody Edward Hardy, Negro plantation worker, carried him to a bridge which spans the river nearby and hung him from one of the girders.—The long rope which was placed about the man's neck and tied to the girder broke when he was pushed from his position on the bridge and his body fell into the river and has not yet been recovered.—No effort is being put forth by relatives of the dead man to find his body due to their fear of the mobbists.

Hardy killed the aged woman with an axe and then robbed her of $500 which had been paid her on the day before as insurance money following the death of her husband.

PLANTATION OWNER AIDED

Hugh Fontaine, the white owner of the plantation, aided in the capture of Hardy and winked at the leaders of the mob as he placed the Negro in their charge stating that he was going to the city to get an officer. Fontaine remained away long enough for the mob to get in their work and when he returned, accompanied by the sheriff of the county, he was told that the alleged murderer had "been taken to see the Father of Waters and as he stood on the bridge, he confessed the crime and jumped into the river."

The slaying of the Goodrich woman created much excitement throughout the section due to her popularity among the plantation workers. She was a leader in religious activities on the plantation and while her husband preached she furnished the music.

Several negroes living on the plantation are reported as saying that they "took Hardy over to see the river" Hardy's body has not been discovered.

The slain negress was said to have been a favorite with the negroes on the plantation and her death caused considerable excitement in the community.

Negro Murderer is Lynched by Mob of His Own Race

TUNICA, MISS., Nov. 20.—By The Associated Press—The story of the robbery and murder of Eliza Goodrich, an aged negress who lived on a plantation at Commerce, Miss., near here, came to light today with reports of the death of Ed Hardy, negro, who is alleged to have robbed the woman of $500 after crushing her head with an axe.

Hardy is believed to have met his death either by drowning in the Mississippi or at the hands of a mob of negroes in whose custody he was last seen several days ago.

Following the slaying of the negress in her cabin at Commerce, Hardy escaped to Arkansas, where he was apprehended. Negroees got hold of him and he disappeared.

Lynchings–1923

Mississippi

1547

Cases of

MISSISSIPPI "OFF" AGAIN

The Kansas City Star 8-11-23

After Lynching Man, Lynchers Fire Bullets into Dead Body. With Axes and Knives They Mutilate Body like Spanish Bulls of old. Town Goes Wild.

Kansas City Mo.

Sardis, Miss., Aug. 6.—(Special) Mississippi, most barbarous, savage and primitive of all American states in its treatment to Negroes has added still another tragedy to its already bloody history. Howard Flotow, accused of assaulting a white woman was taken from the jail here in broadest daylight and was carried to the golf link grounds here, just north of this city and lynhced.

After the mob had tied a big rope around Flotow's neck, and had drawn him up and down several times, his body was riddled with bullets until chunks of his flesh fell to the ground —severed by bullets from the guns of members of the mob. With axes, hammers and iron bars, the mob then cut the man's body down and dismembered the limbs from his body, even his head was beaten to pulp.

Charge is Same.

Flotow was accused of the same old charge attributed to all Negroes whom the south lynches—assaulting a white woman. Flotow was arrested Saturday, placed in jail and held for investigation. A small group of men, unmasked, gathered in front of the jail talking in low tones. While they were here gathered a telegram came to the sheriff stating that bloodhounds which had started in Sardis on the trail of the alleged "assaulter," had resulted in the capture of a man near here who admitted he had been in Sardis during the week of the alleged crime. So much reliance at first was placed in the bloodhounds that the sheriff was certain the man captured at Annette, a few miles from here, was the guilty man. The following day when Sheriff J. A. Carter read the local newspaper that the man held at Annette had escaped, the crowd again gathered in front of the jail.

Mod is Addressed.

The intentions of the mob were unmistakable when a rope was seen in one of the cars belonging to a member of the mob gathered in front of the jail. The sheriff went down and talked to several and it is said he asked them not to attempt any violence, that the Negro would be tried and beyond a doubt convicted and given the "fullest extent of the law." While the sheriff was talking to the members of the mob, all of whom were unmasked in broadest day time, word was received from Circuit Judge G. L. Rice that he would arrive in the city within 8 hours to [illegible] and that justice would speedily be satisfied. He asked the mob not to attempt any violence. The sheriff later stated to a coroner's jury that the leader of the mob, whose name he "did not remember," promised him that they would not attempt to lynch the man, and scattered as if they would disperse.

Jail Battered Down.

When the sheriff had left the scene, several observers attracted to the jail by the crowd, stated that the men went to their automobiles parked nearby, and got axes, sledge hammers and iron bars and began battering the jail door. One of the prisoners in the jail with Flotow stated that the mob did not know whom it wanted, and that Flotow's facial expression betrayed him. However he stated the mob threatened to lynch all of them if they did not point out the man they wanted. Flotow was placed in one of the cars and speedd away.

Mississippi "off" Again.

He was driven about two miles north of the city where he was lynched. More than two hundred citizens, beside the members of the mob, were present to see Flotow lynched. The crowd turned away in horror when the mob began mutilating the man's body.

Negroes who visited the scene of the tragedy the following day stated that several posts and trees nearby were spattered with the blood of Flotow. Evidently the man was beaten unconscious before he was lynched, or ,when the cannibalistic mob had severed the man's arms, ears, and legs they beat him against the trees in glee in celebration of the event. They stated that all of the man's body was not found by friends who wanted to give him a respectable burial.

Lynchers "Unknown."

The sheriff stated to the coroner's jury that he did not recognize any of the men as he talked to them. He said, further, that he was so excited he would be unable to identify any of the guilty parties. Sardis is a town of about 1000 population, more than 500 of whom are Negroes. It is reported as "improbable" that the sheriff did not recognize any of the men, since he addressed them for half an hour, and returned later on and read a message from Judge Rice to them. The members of the mob were not masked. The coroner's jury stated that "Flotow came to his death at the hands of a mob, the members of whom are unknown to us."

Mobile, Ala., Register

AUG 7 – 1923

MISSISSIPPI'S LYNCHINGS.

For the second time within a week a Mississippi mob has lynched a negro, in circumstances which show a deplorable disregard for the dignity of the law. The lynching at Sardis met with little or no interference and occurred despite the fact that Circuit Judge G. L. Rice had announced that he would come to Sardis Monday and convene court in special session for trying the accused negro. There was the prospect of a speedy trial, conviction and punishment if the negro was proved guilty. The excuse of the "law's delay" could not be made in this case to justify, or palliate, the interference of a mob with the orderly processes of justice. A short while before the mob stormed the jail, the sheriff left his post of duty. It is said in his defense that he was assured that there would be no violence. At any rate, he was absent when his prisoner was taken out and hanged. It is a reasonable assumption that the lynching could have been prevented.

10,000 FLEE AS MAN IS BURNED AT THE STAKE.

The Washington Daily Eagle 8/11/23

Yazoo City Burns Man to Death as Citizens Leave.

Yazoo City, Miss., Aug. 6.—Ten thousand colored persons, including men, women and children, are said to have left the vicinity of Yazoo City since Sunday following the burning at the stake of Willie Minnifield in a swamp near here.

The emigrants left in all sorts of conveyances, railroads, automobiles, ox carts, and some on foot. Few of them remained long enough to dispose of their possessions, some even leaving crops on the ground.

Accused of Attack.

Minnifield, who was found fishing in the swamp, was accused of attacking a woman with an axe at a point 26 miles distant. There was no indication to prove he was the criminal. When the posse discovered him, he was in company with another man. Both were seixed and charged with the crime. Minnifield's companion escaped, and angered because he had slipped from their clutches, the mob prepared to burn Minnifield.

He was dragged to a cleared space in the swamp, and a stake was driven into the ground, to which he was tied. Brushwood was then piled around the man until only his head was visible. A match was set to the brush, and as the flames crackled around the man, the woods resounded with the shouts of the mob.

As the flames died down, leaving the victim's charred skeleton lying upon the embers, the mob took up the chase of hte man who had escaped.

At a late hour Tuesday no investigation had been made by state or county authorities into Minnifield's murder.

MOBS BUSY

The New York

Lynch One

SARDIS, Miss.—Howard Flotow, Negro, was taken from the county jail late last night by a mob and hanged to a tree just north of town. Officials say the Negro confessed to an attack upon a white woman of this city.

Atlanta 8-11-23

Lynchers Trail Two

CARTHAGE, Ind.—A posse made up of farmers and officials, estimated to number about 500, was searching today for two Negroes who are alleged to have attacked the sixteen-year-old daughter of Walter Aldridge, a white girl, at Sexton near here, last night. Bloodhounds are being used.

New York Mob

A mob of fifty men and women attacked three Jersey City policemen last night in an attempt to seize three youths whom the patrolmen had arrested for an alleged attack on Mrs. Mary Reilly, thirty-five, of No. 629 Henderson street, Jersey City, at the Thirteenth street viaduct, on the Lincoln Highway, near her home.

The crowd collected when Mrs. Reilly screamed, struggling in the arms of one of the youths while five others stood by. Three of the youths escaped, but the policemen captured William Moody, seventeen, of No. 245 West 128th street, Manhattan; George Christian, seventeen, of No. 39 West 138th street, and Earl Johnson, eighteen, of No. 119 West 138th street.

NEGRO IS LYNCHED BY MOB AT SARDIS

Confessed Attack Upon White Woman and Is Hanged and Riddled With Bullets

SADIS, MISS., Aug. 6—Howard Flotow, negro, was taken from the county jail here late last night by a mob and hanged to a tree just north of town. Officials say the negro confessed to an attack upon a white woman of this city.

The negro was arrested Saturday morning, and throughout the day groups of men gathered around the county jail. Prominent citizens addressed the mob at different times, urging that the law be permitted to take its course. Circuit Judge G. L. Rice sent word that he would come here Monday and convene court in special session in order to secure a speedy trial.

Shortly after ten o'clock last night, Sheriff J. A. Carter held a conference with members of the mob, remaining at the jail at that hour and they assured him that no violence would be attempted. Some time later the sheriff left the jail temporarily for a trip into town, taking the keys with him. Upon his departure the mob broke into the jail took the prisoner to a golf course near town, hanged him to a tree and riddled his body with bullets.

A coroner's jury this morning returned a verdict to the effect that the negro came to his death at the hands of parties unknown.

MOB AT SARDIS HANGS NEGRO ON GOLF LINKS

Accused of Choking Wife of Citizen.

RIDDLED WITH BULLETS

Crowd About Jail All Day Addressed by Prominent Men Appealing for No Violence—Men Agree and Sheriff Leaves.

SARDIS, Miss., Aug. 5.—Howard Flowtow, the negro arrested yesterday morning on suspicion of being the one who broke into the home of Wm. E. Arnold and attempting to choke Mrs. Arnold to death, was taken from the county jail about 11 o'clock last night, escorted to the golf links, just south of town, riddled with bullets and hanged to a tree.

During the entire day the court house had been thronged with a mob of quilt, but angry men, and while violence was repeatedly threatened, Sheriff Carter kept the prisoner securely guarded. Various prominent citizens adressed the crowd at different times, begging them to let the law take its course, and word was received from Circut Judge Rice that he would come here Monday and convene court in special session that the accused might have a speedy trial.

Between ten and eleven o'clock Sheriff Carter held a conference with the mob and was given assurance that no violence would be attempted. A little later, taking the keys of the jail with him he went over town, and was no sooner gone than the mob broke into the jail, secured the prisoner and carried him off. It is reported that he made a full confession before being lynched, admitting this to have been his third attempt to break into the Arnold home.

At 9 o'clock this morning, Squire Gammon empaneled a coroner's jury who viewed the body and returned a verdict that the deceased came to his death at the hands of party or parties unknown, and may the Lord have mercy on their souls.

This was the first lynching in Panola County in 20 years, and the only case of hanging which has been held in same length of time.

Mississippi Mob Stages "Rope" Party

SARDIS, Miss., Aug. 9.—Mob violence [illegible] again late Saturday night, when Howard Flotow was taken from the county jail and hanged to a tree just north of the town.

According to unprejudiced reports, the man, held in connection with an alleged attack on a white woman, protested his innocence to the last.

AUG 6 1923

NEGRO LYNCHED AT SARDIS.

On Saturday morning a negro, Howard Flowtow, was arrested on suspicion of being the one who broke into the home of W. E. Arnold at Sardis Miss., and attempting to choke Mrs. Arnold to death. At about 11:00 o'clock Saturday night he was taken from the jail and escorted to the golf links, just south of the town, and hanged to a tree. Scarcely had the officers been able to restrain the mob which had gathered about the Court House all day and made repeated threats. Prominent men spoke in behalf of the law, asking that it be allowed to take its course. Word had been received from Circuit Judge Rice that he would arrive there Monday to hold a special session of court.

Between 10:00 and 11:00 o'clock Sheriff Carter conferred with the mob, and was assured that no violence would be done. A little later he left the jail, carrying the keys with him. Immediatey the mob broke into the ail, secured the prisoner and carried him to the spot where the lynching was done. It is reported that he made a full confession of the deed.

MURDERED PROTECTING WOMAN OF HIS RACE

Hattlesburg, Miss., Sept. 28.—Another cold-blooded murder occurred here on Monday night when John Gray, a 60-year-old member of the Race was taken away from members of the local police force by a gang of white men, and shot to death. Gray had been placed under arrest for the alleged shooting of a white man, who, it is said, had attempted a criminal assault upon a young girl of the Race. No resistance was made by the police when the demand for Gray was made and there is a prevailing opinion among the people here that the officers were in sympathy with the mob. Things are quiet and no further trouble is expected. No arrests have been made.

NOT RESPONSIBLE

IN MISSISSIPPI LYNCHING

Sardis, Miss., Aug. 6.—No arrests have been made in connection with the lynching of Howard Flotow, Negro, here late Saturday night. A coroner's jury returned a verdict sunday that the Negro had come to his death at the hands of parties unknown.

Flotow, said by officials to have confessed to an attack upon a woman here alst week, was arrested Saturday morning. A mob quiskly gathered about the jail. Throughout the day prominent citizens addressed the crowd urging aganist violence. Circuit Judge G. L. Rice sent word that he would convene court in special session Monday to try the Negro.

Early Saturday evening the leaders of the mob are said to have promised Sheriff J. E. Carter that they would not attempt to seize the prisoner, but when the sheriff, after locking the jail and taking the keys with him, left temporarily the mob stormed the doors, took Flotow to a golf course near town hanged him to a tree and fired many bullets into his body.

The wman who was attacked Friday night awekened to find a Negro's fingers about her throat. Her screams frightened the attacker [illegible]

NEGRO IS BURNED TO DEATH BY MOB

Yazoo City, Miss., July 29.—Willie Mennifield, negro, was burned to death in a swamp near here at 11 o'clock this morning by a mob which accused him of attacking a white woman 20 miles southeast of here with an axe early last night and inflicting wounds which physicians believe will prove fatal. The victim was Mrs. William Russell, of Myrleville.

Mennifield and another negro were captured by a posse in a swamp near here at 10 o'clock this morning. According to members of the posse, the other negro, whose name is unknown and who later escaped, declared that he stood outside Mrs. Russell's home while Mennifield went in to attack the woman.

Mennifield was taken from the posse by a mob, brought here, tied to a stake and burned to death.

BIRMINGHAM, ALA., New Herald SEP 19 1923

NEGRO LYNCHED AFTER ARREST FOR SHOOTING

Mississippians Enraged Over Assault On Prominent Man

HATTIESBURG, Miss., Sept. 18.—John Gray, 20, was shot to death last night on the Richton-New Augusta highway by a band of irate citizens, who forced officers to turn their prisoner over to them, after Gray had shot Z. W. Walley of Richton, father of Dr. W. A. Walley and Dr. Dave Walley, both prominent Jackson, Miss., physicians.

Walley was shot three times, in the neck, hand and forehead, by the negro, but was not seriously wounded. Walley, a timber man, bound in his automobile from Richton into the country, acceeded to Gray's request that he be given a ride to a turpentine still en route, and the negro took a seat in the rear of the car. A short distance from Richton Gray began firing at Walley without warning but after the third shot, all of which had taken effect, the pistol began to snap on defective cartridges. The negro then beat Walley over the head with the butt of the weapon, but when his victim did not succumb, became frightened and fled.

Walley returned to Richton and the authorities, learning a negro taxi driver had picked up Gray and taken him to his home near Owett, went there and made the arrest. The officers were returning to New Augusta with their prisoner when a large band of white men intercepted them, took the negro and shot him to death.

Lynchings — 1923
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CO-EDS AT LYNCHING OF NEGRO BLAMED BY LITTLE GIRL, 14

N Y C WORLD
APRIL 30, 1923

Columbia, Mo., Mob Drags Man From Jail to Hang Him From Bridge Near University.

W3 Wired 30 apr 23

TEACHER, CHILD'S FATHER, BEGS FOR LIFE OF VICTIM.

Sheriff and Men Fail to Resist and Call for Militia, Sent to Governor, Arrives Too Late.

COLUMBIA, Mo., April 29 (Associated Press).—While a mob that included many University of Missouri students and some fifty women, several of them co-eds, looked on, James T. Scott, Negro janitor, charged with attempting to assault a fourteen-year-old girl, was hanged from a bridge over the railroad tracks here to-day.

About 500 men and boys broke into the jail, aided by an acetylene torch, and dragged Scott through the streets for blocks to the bridge, just outside the university section.

Until he was pushed off the bridge to break his neck at the end of a rope the Negro pleaded innocence and begged for mercy. The only answer was a shout of derision as a boy adjusted the noose and tied the rope to the bridge railing. A man then threw Scott over.

Identified by Girl.

The girl, daughter of Prof. Almsted, head of the university's German department, was lured by a Negro to a lonely spot on the railway tracks April 20.

She positively identified Scott, a janitor in the university buildings.

But the girl's father himself pleaded with the mob to spare Scott.

"I have stood out against any violence all along," the professor declared later. "I should have preferred to have him go to trial in the usual way, but I have no doubt of his guilt."

Sheriff Brown, defending failure of the authorities to resist, declared any show of guns would have caused a riot.

Sheriff Pleads in Vain.

Many members of the mob displayed pistols, but the hanging was comparatively orderly, only a single shot being fired and that from the outskirts of the mob. The Sheriff and Prosecuting Attorney Hulen added their pleas to those of Prof. Almsted.

Hulen promises immediate Grand Jury investigation. He says he can produce witnesses who will name the ringleaders and it will develop they were "roughs" from outside Columbia.

The Sheriff explained he had called Gov. Hyde when the trouble started and the Governor ordered out the militia. Troops failed to appear in time, but Adjutant General Raupp is now in Columbia investigating possibilities of a race riot. Brown said Scott was confined in the old part of the jail, built fifty years ago.

STUDENT AID ADDS FLARE TO LYNCHING

University of Missouri Pupils Join Midnight Mob in Murder of Girl Assailant Suspect

5-5-23
Chicago Defender

Columbia, Mo., May 4.—While Sheriff Fred C. Brown asked a mob of several hundred persons, citizens of the town, and students, male and female, of the state university here if they wouldn't please go away, the lawbreakers broke into the jail, consumed an hour burning their way into the cell of James Scott, a rape suspect, seized the suspect and hurried him away to a bridge at the outskirts of the city, where they threw him over after fastening a rope, already noosed, around Scott's neck, securely to the railing of the bridge.

As the mob leaders applied an acetylene torch to the iron door of Scott's cell the persuasive sheriff telephoned Governor Hyde to call out the National Guard unit. By the time five sergeants had been assembled Scott had crossed Jordan.

He was accused of attempting to assault the 14-year-old daughter of Prof. H. B. Almstedt, Regina Almstedt. Prof. Almstedt is head of the department of German literature at the University of Missouri.

Father Scoffed at

When respecters of law and order asked him to plead with the mob not to murder Scott, the father of the girl remonstrated with the students and townspeople to no advantage. They laughed and booed him down, cries of "Hang him, too!" being heard. Finally the professor reluctantly went to his home and, Pilate-like, washed his hands of the whole matter.

For several days prior to the university murder there had been rumors of possible trouble. It had been suggested that troops might be needed and, in all events, that the utmost caution would have to be taken to protect the prisoner, who had already been indicted and was to appear in court the day after his death.

Saturday night the infection came to a head. The scattered, muttering twos and threes assembled and began their march on the prison. They were met at the jail door by the sheriff, who asked them to please let the law take its course. The mob paid no attention to him, except to kid him, telling him not to make a fool of himself, nor be chicken-hearted. No word is told of any deputies. The lone sheriff's voice cried from the wilderness of his despair, while the mob set about to saw wood.

Sheriff Trusted Door

Sheriff Brown later explained that he did not think the lynchers would be able to force their way into Scott's cell. When they came to the thick iron door they sent for the torch and an hour's burning sufficed to clear the way of barriers.

Scott pleaded with his murderers that he was not guilty. The specifications of the charge against him told of how he had lured the professor's daughter to a spot on the railroad tracks under the pretext that there was a baby lying out there in danger. He asked the mob whether it thought he would lie while facing death, but the bloodthirsty men and women only laughed. They dragged him out and carried him to the bridge.

That was near the scene of the alleged crime. That was where Prof. Almstedt added his pleas for the maintenance of authority. Some time time was consumed there making preparations for the crime. One rope procured proved too short. Another was sent for. First one member and then another of the mob would volunteer for various tasks connected with the murder. When the noose had been slipped about the neck of the protesting man, all the lynchers hesitated until one young man, about 20, stepped forward, fought the bound man for a hold and lifted him high over the four-foot railing. The suspect dropped and stopped in midair as the railing creaked against the weight of his body.

Send Body to Wife

His body was later wrapped in a white shroud and sent to his wife.

Ruby M. Hulen, prosecuting attorney of Boone county, has now declared that the mob leaders' names are known and that they shall be prosecuted. The father of the girl says he believes the right man was slain, because the victim was identified by his daughter. Most of the people in the town seem satisfied that no harm has been done.

SEEKS TO INDICT NEGRO LYNCHERS

Columbia, Mo., Prosecutor Calls for a Grand Jury.

VICTIM HANGED FROM BRIDGE

N Y C SUN
APRIL 30, 1923

Coeds Witnessed Murder of Janitor Accused by Young Girl.

COLUMBIA, Mo., April 30.—Prosecuting Attorney Hulen announced to-day that he would ask the Circuit Court immediately to convene the Grand Jury for an investigation of the lynching yesterday of James T. Scott, a negro janitor at the University of Missouri, by a mob of between twenty-five and thirty fen, who stormed the jail. Many university students witnessed the lynching, but it is not known that any of them took part in hanging the negro after he had been accused by a fourteen-year-old girl.

Four hours before the jail was stormed the town had buzzed with rumors of an impending lynching. Sheriff Brown called on Gov. Hyde for assistance and Battery B of the State militia was ordered to Columbia. The order came too late and the negro was hanged before the troops arrived.

"We have witnesses who will tell us who did the work," Mr. Hulen said in announcing that he would immediately start a Grand Jury investigation. "We know the leaders of the mob. They were roughneck men from out of Columbia."

Used Torch on Steel Door.

The lynching took place shortly after midnight Saturday. The leaders of the mob arrived at the jail about 11:15 o'clock. The entire lynching party consisted of twenty-five or thirty men and youths brandishing ropes and revolvers. Reports that there was a lynching under way brought hundreds of citizens to the scene, including some women. Many students of the University of Missouri were attracted to the jail. The girl the negro was charged with attacking is the daughter of Prof. H. B. Almstedt of the university.

Sheriff Brown and Deputy Sheriff Hall, aided by a few city policemen, tried to dissuade the mob from carrying out the lynching and made efforts to block their way, but their remonstrances were hopeless. They looked on hopeless as the mob broke down the jail door and entered the building.

The second door of the jail could not be broken down and an acetylene torch was used to open it. When the men entered Scott's cell he pleaded with them, but they dragged him out by force.

The prisoner was taken to the Stewart bridge, a Missouri, Kansas and Texas Railroad structure that spans a deep ravine outside the city. At least fifty automobiles filled with people, some of them women, followed the mob.

Died Protesting Innocence.

Prof. Almstedt, who had heard of the lynching, went to the scene and appealed to the mob to let the law take its course. He was howled down and threatened with bodily injury. Prosecutor Hulen and other city officials made similar pleas, but without success.

Scott, bareheaded and with his shirt torn, repeatedly denied his guilt.

"Before God, I am innocent," he cried when the bridge was reached. "A negro was in the cell with me. This afternoon he told me he did this. His wife and him had been having trouble, like the girl said the man who attacked her told about. My wife never has had trouble with me. Go down and see her. I can prove my innocence."

A rope had already been tied about Scott's neck and to the bridge. Despite his pleas he was thrown over the side. In a few minutes the crowd had dispersed.

Lynchings — 1923. Missouri.

Cases of.

1540

NEGRO IS LYNCHED BY MOB OF 2,000

Father of Girl Attacked Pleads for Life of Alleged Assailant at Scene of Hanging.

Columbia, Mo., April 29.—James Scott, a negro accused of attempted attack upon a 10-year-old girl was hanged to a railroad bridge here early today by a mob estimated at 2,000. Just before the hanging, the father of the girl, who is the head of the German department at the University of Missouri here, appealed to the mob to let the law take its course.

The mob ignored the pleas of the girl's father and, despite protests of innocence from their victim, took the negro to the bridge, not far from the place where the attempted attack was made upon the girl.

After a rope was tied about his neck he was pushed off the bridge. The coroner said later that the negro's neck was broken and that he apparently died instantly.

The mob gained entrance to the cell occupied by the negro by burning the iron door with an acetylene torch. No attempt was made to take the keys from the sheriff.

No students at the university took an active part in the lynching, eyewitnesses stated. There were many in the crowd, it was asserted, but all the available witnesses state that they were there only as spectators.

The negro had been identified by the girl, as her assailant. A coroner's jury late today found that the negro's death was caused by "hanging at the hands of persons unknown to the jury."

GRAND JURY TO LOOK INTO NEGRO LYNCHING

Governor Hyde of Missouri Calls on National Guard to Quell Disorder

COLUMBIA, Mo., April 29.—Immediate grand jury investigation of the lynching here early today of James Scott, negro, who was held in jail charged with an attempted attack on a 14 year old girl will be requested by Prosecuting Attorney Ruhey M. Hulen, he announced tonight. "I am going to ask the circuit court to convoke the grand jury tomorrow for investigation of the lynching," Hulen said. "We have witnesses who will tell us who did the work. We know the leaders. They were rough neck men from out of Columbia."

A mob of more than five hundred men and boys broke into the jail, and with an actylene torch burned its way into Scott's cell, pushed and dragged him through the streets and hanged him to a bridge over the Missouri, Kansas & Texas railroad tracks in the southwestern part of the city.

It developed that Governor Arthur M. Hyde had ordered out a local company of the National Guard, but the lynching took place before it could be mobilized. County officers offered no physical resistance to the mob.

Adjutant General Raupp of Jefferson City was here today investigating the possibility of a race clash, following the hanging and upon satisfying himself that local authorities had the situation well in hand, returned to the state capital.

Mob Was Orderly.

The mob carried out its work comparatively orderly. Only a single shot was fired during the lynching and that was by some one on the outskirts of the crowd, apparently not one of the mob proper.

Just before the negro was thrown from the bridge, the father of the girl who is head of the German department of the University of Missouri, appealed to the mob to let justice take its course in the courts, but he was howled down and even threatened by some of the more extreme members of the mob.

Scott, who was identified last Friday by the girl as the negro, who on April 20 lured her to a lonely spot along the railroad tracks and attempted to assault her vigorously asserted his innocence, and prayed for mercy. Raucous shouts of derision was the answer of the mob as a boy member adjusted the noose.

Prosecuting Attorney Hulen and other officials, including Sheriff Brown, pleaded with the mob to spare the negro's life and let the law take its course, but the pleading was in vain. A large man thrust the victim over the bridge railing with the rope around his neck.

Coming fast on the heels of reports of an intended lynching the mob began gathering on the streets, and used sledge hammers to batter down the doors of the jail. Brandishing ropes and pistols, members of the mob, with the aid of the torch, finally succeeded in obtaining their victim. Two other negroes, lodged in nearby cells, were spirited out of town after the lynching.

Many See Hanging.

With the circulation of the news that the negro had been taken from the jail, many persons, including numerous students, witnessed the hanging. It was estimated that about 50 women, including co-eds, were in the crowd.

"We had been expecting this all week, but we thought the jail would hold," declared the sheriff. "An acetylene torch did the work. The jail has been built for 50 years, and Scott was in the old half, the stone section.

"I called Governor Hyde when this trouble began, and he ordered out the militia. Battery B here was ordered out. They did not mobilize, however, so far as I know. We saw nothing of them."

The sheriff said he would not have attempted to resist the mob with firearms, and he added: "They were crazy, and any show of gun would have caused a riot. The result would have been worse than the lynching, as it was impossible to reason with the men."

Scott's body was cut down and turned over to his wife for burial. He was employed as a janitor at the University.

Prosecuting Attorney Hulen said he had obtained from witnesses the names of several ring leaders of the mob. He declared the mob was "liquored up" and exceedingly profane. It was composed, he continued, of the local "rough element" and outside residents of Boone county.

Reports that students at the University of Missouri, which is located here, participated actively in the lynching of the negro were termed "absolutely false" by Dr. Isidore Loeb, president of the institution, in a statement to the Associated Press tonight.

An unknown person called Governor Arthur M. Hyde last night from Columbia and told him that a mob had formed to lynch a negro, James Scott, and that it was doubtful if Sheriff Fred T. Brown would be able to protect the prisoner from violence. The governor immediately called officers of the Columbia light battery troops and told them to call their men and report to the sheriff at once and render him such assistance as would insure the supremacy of the law.

It is said that the governor has learned from reliable sources officers did call their men, but owing to the lateness of the hour and the quick action of the mob the negro was taken from the jail and hanged before the unit was ready for action.

The governor said today that Prosecuting Attorney Hulen, of Boone county, had assured him that a grand jury would be called at once and that there did not appear to be anything that the chief executive could do at the present time. He is determined, he said, that there shall be a most effective investigation and all the steps deemed necessary to support the supremacy of the law will be invoked.

Lynchings—1923 Oklahoma.

Cases of.

1541

DR. RAWLS TO STAND TRIAL FOR SLAYING

Oklahoma Doctor Accused of Killing Policeman in Raid on Store

Chicago Ill.
1-27-23

Chicago Defender

Sapulpa, Okla., Jan. 26.—Following a preliminary hearing in the county court, presided over by Judge Jasper Cox, Dr. James Rawls, prominent physician here, was bound over to the district court, without bonds, on a charge of murder. The case was the outgrowth of the recent race riot here in which Police Officer S. E. Brumley (white) was shot and killed and three other policemen slightly wounded.

Dr. Rawls, through his attorney, Frank Hickman, made a hard fight to gain his freedom. He took the witness stand himself and put on several other witnesses in an effort to refute the testimony of the state that he was present at Glass' restaurant when the fatal shot was fired on Brumley.

The physician resides at 208 West Burnett street, and operates a drug store at 505 West Johnson street, just around the corner where the shooting was staged. He declared when the officers arrived to investigate the trouble Officer Brumley asked him: "Doc, who's doing the shooting?" and that he replied it was around the corner. Dr. Rawls said when the gun battle started he took his wife and hurried to the office of Dr. A. J. Johnson, a dentist, about a block away.

Officer Adams (white), one of the men who was wounded, was put on the stand in behalf of the state. He said he never heard any officer ask Dr. Rawls for information, but that the latter voluntarily said: "Gentlemen, I think the shooting is just around the corner."

Lee Freeman, testifying for Dr. Rawls, said the physician was in front of his drug store when the shooting started and, with his wife, ran toward home. Beverly Cox said he was in the drug store when the shooting began and Dr. Rawls did not come through. Dr. Johnson testified that the physician and his wife got to his office while the shooting was still in progress.

On cross-examination by County Attorney Wallace the defendant was reluctant to tell of the numerous times he had come into contact with policemen. He admitted, however, that he had been arrested once in the last month on a charge of disturbing the peace. When asked if he was fined he said that an "assessment" of $10 had been placed against him. He denied that he was angry with the officers for taking him into custody, and declared he had friends among them.

Excitement ran high here following the killing of the officer and for several days the entire town was guarded to prevent race clashes. W. M. Ragsdale, wealthy undertaker, whose success had aroused the envy of his white neighbors, was also arrested in connection with the slaying of Brumley. Ragsdale was shot to death while being brought from Muskogee by policemen when they charged that he attempted to "jump" from the auto. He was handcuffed when his dead body was brought to the city. The officers' statement was accepted and no investigation was made. The opinion, however, is that he was victim of a plot.

White Man Accused Of Attacking Woman Lynched in Oklahoma

Muscokee, Okla., November 3.—Dallas Sowell, accused of attacking a white woman, who recently returned to the McIntosh county jail after a break for liberty aross Oklahoma into Texas, was lynched by eleven masked men at Eufaula, the county seat, early today, according to word received here.

1-4-23

The band appeared suddenly at the jail, overpowered the deputies and made away with their prisoner. Telephone wires leading from the jail previously had been cut.

11-4-23

Following in the direction taken by the band, officers found Sowell's body hanging in a barn. The lynchers had dispersed.

Sowell is described variously as a Mexican and a half-breed nego.

NEW YORK CITY WORLD
NOVEMBER 4, 1923

PRISONER LYNCHED BY 11.

Masked Men Take Alleged Assailant of Woman From Jail.

MUSKOGEE, Okla., Nov. 3.—Dallas Sowell, accused of attacking a white woman, recently returned to the McIntosh Jail after a break for liberty across Oklahoma into Texas, was lynched by eleven masked men at Eufaula, the county seat, early to-day, according to word received here.

The band appeared suddenly at the jail, overpowered two deputies and made away with their prisoner. Telephone wires leading from the jail had been cut. Sowell was either a mulatto or a Mexican.

SHERIFF TURNS OVER PRISONER AT EUFAULA, OK.

St. Louis Argus

A Mob's Court Was Held In Klan's Barn, After Which Victim Was Hanged To Rafter. Accused By Klan Of Passing For White.

11-9-23

EUFALA, Okla., Nov. 7.—A masked mob swooped down on the jail here a few days ago, and what they called "quietly" lynched G. Dallas Sewell, who some time ago was charged with attack on a white woman.

Dallas had just been returned here from Texas, where he was caught after making his escape from the sheriff of this county followng his first arrest.

When the mob marched upon the jail, it is said that Sheriff Tyres turned the keys over to the leaders, some of whom wore the garb of the Ku Klux Klan.

Declares He Is Innocent

After being taken from jail, Sewell begged and pleaded with the mob to spare his life and give him a chance to prove his innocence. But he was led to a barn of a known klansman, where it is said he was tried, convicted and finally hanged to a rafter in the barn.

The charge upon which Sewell was convicted in the K'an court was that he had been "passing for white and associating with white women," and therefore deserved death according to Klan "Kode."

After the mob had finished its work and the victim declared dead, a member in the person of Sheriff Tyres and his deputies cut the body down and reported to the coroner who returned a verdict "came to death by hands unknown to the coroner."

MASKED MEN LYNCH PRISONER

1541

MUSKOGEE, Okla.—Dallas Sowell, accused of attacking a white woman recently returned to the McIntosh jail after a break for liberty across Oklahoma into Texas, was lynched by eleven masked men at Eufala, the county seat, early today.

New York News

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11-10-23 N. Y.

Following in the direction taken by the band, officers found Sowell's body hanging in a barn. The lynchers had dispersed.

Lynchings — 1923
Cases of.

Manila, Philippine, Island.

1542

NEW YORK CITY TIMES
NOVEMBER 28, 1923

NATIVES LYNCH THREE MOROS.

Residents of Palawan Island Are Reported Fearing a Massacre.

MANILA, Nov. 27 (Associated Press). -Insular officials were advised by telegram today that three Moros had just been lynched by natives at Brooks Point, Island of Palawan. It was stated that the lynching was the result of rumors that the Moros were planning a massacre.

The presence of Moros gave rise to the belief that the unrest among the Moros of Mindanao was extending to Palawan. This belief was unfounded, according to officials.

Several small islands in the vicinity of Palawan are inhabited by Moros, and communication between them and the natives of Palawan is frequent.

Lynchings—1923
Cases of.

Texas

1407

Colored Physician Jail Fire Victim; Met Terrible Death

The Houston Informer
The Houston Informer 1/13/23

Special to The Informer.

Bishop, Texas.—The colored people of this section of the state are at high tension because of the cruel, horrible and brutal death that met one of their leading men, Dr. J. Smith, former Wharton County physician.

According to information received by the writer, Dr. Smith was brutally and barbarously treated and then placed in jail and burned to death, but not until his assailants and tormentors had cut off his feet and hands. In such condition he was placed in the bastile and a mysterious fire destroyed the jail, burning this colored doctor to a crisp.

It is alleged that Dr. Smith was recently driving his car and his car and a car occupied by whites collided. After both had taken stock of their damages and same being so slight, the whites refused to accept damages and institute charges against the doctor.

It seems that later this colored physician accidentally injured a Mexican woman with his car and while here the Wharton County officers came for him, arrested him, placed him in the local jail and while incarcerated he was burned to death after his body had been dismembered and mutilated.

Having read the details of the Mer Rouge, La., outrage, and knowing that nothing would be done if they tried out the stunt on this colored physician, the Hunnish fiends subjected Dr. Smith to one of the most horrible and cruel deaths in the history of this section of the state.

It may be said in passing that this report of the doctor's death can not be verified and it is largely rumors and hear-say report. The colored people here are in dense ignorance and the whites seem to know very little, that is, for publication.

This much is true, the jail burned down and the dismembered and mutilated body of Dr. Smith was found in the ruins. How and why the bastile was burned and just who the firebugs were, or the contributing cause, or why the fire was not discovered and extinguished, speculation is rife in this section.

It was a revolting, shameful and fiendish crime, yet the officials do not seem to be exercising any undue diligence to ferret out the crime and apprehend and punish the criminals.

Paraphrasing the Coue maxim, it seems that "Day by day, in every way, the South is getting worse and worse."

TEXAS PHYSICIAN IS JAIL VICTIM; MEETS HORRIBLE DEATH

The Freeman — 1-27-23
Baltimore Afro-American

Colored Citizens in Dangerous Mood Following Brutal Murder of Prominent Professional Race Man.

BISHOP, Tex. — The colored people of tis section of the State are at high tension because of the cruel, horrible and brutal death that met one of their leading men, Dr. J. Smith, former Bexar Co., physician.

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Mr. Brady's reference to the tende
cy of the younger element of ot
group to ignore the opinion or cou
sel of older heads was quite timel

NOTE TELLS HOW DOCTOR WAS KILLED

Chicago Defender
2-10-23

Texans See Charred Body of Dr. Smith After Klan Had Finished Its Work

Wharton, Tex., Feb. 9.—Verification of the report that Dr. J. G. Smith, owner of Smith's electric sanitarium here, was taken out of jail at Bishop and burned to death by Ku Klux came in the form of a letter to a prominent citizen here. The communication, posted at Bishop, contained the following statement:

"We, the Ku Klux, burned your nigger doctor. He didn't know his place. Instead of carrying a pick and shovel on his shoulder, he tried to act like a white man and carry a satchel under his arm. He'll never do it again. There are other niggers here who are marked men. And you are one."

Note Has Warnings

The warning was typewritten on pink paper and a black ink border encircled it. At the bottom of the note was a coffin, rudely drawn, and in the left corner was a picture of a tree with a rope dangling from an extended branch. The letters "AKIA" were inscribed at the top of the note. When translated this means, according to klan language: "I am a klansman." The name of the receiver of the warning is being withheld.

Dr. Smith, the victim referred to in the note, was a prosperous physician of this city. He also had offices in Kingsville, and was on his way to Bishop on a professional call when he was "arrested" and placed in jail for "reckless driving." That was early Saturday afternoon. On the same night the klan is said to have surrounded the jail and set it afire.

Friends Investigate

News of Dr. Smith's death reached Wharton the following day. A party of his friends set out on an investigation tour. They reached Bishop, a small town six miles north of here, and held a conference with the local sheriff. In a statement to a Defender reporter one in the party outlined the investigation as follows:

"We found Dr. Smiths' charred body removed from the scene of the burning. It had been placed in a large dry goods box and given to an old Colored man who lives there. The white men who delivered it told him to cut it up and 'sell to the niggers for meat.'

How Body Looked

"On opening the box we found Dr. Smith's body in this state: His hands and arms, feet and legs and his face were burned entirely off—his body was burned to a crisp. The constable of the place told us that he had taken all of Dr. Smith's belongings and removed a box of matches from his pockets before he placed him in jail. He said he was 'puzzled' over the incident and 'could assign no reason for the burning.'".

Dr. Smith's body was wrapped in a sack and brought back to Wharton for burial. The white newspapers refused to publish the story of the burning. The Brownsville Herald, the only paper mentioning the death, declared in a news item that " a Negro man attempting to escape, set fire to the jail hoping to burn a hole through the wall, and was himself burned to death."

As far as the authorities are concerned the matter is a closed issue. No investigation has been ordered.

Three men were burned to death by a mob of 500 whites at Kirvin, Texas. The [illegible] which was used as a stake from which to burn them. One of the [illegible] sang "Lord, I'm Coming Home" as the flames leaped around his body.

NEGRO LYNCHED IN SCHULENBURG

SCHULENBURG, Texas, July 3.—Jesse Bullock, 23 year old negro, said to have come here from Cameron, Texas, was lynched on Main street here at 4 o'clock this afternoon.

He was identified by a 12 year old white girl as the negro who had criminally attacked her at her parent's home near here shortly before noon.

Bullock was captured near the Navidad river bridge, following an alarm telephoned to town by farmers. Taken back to the scene of the attack by officers, he was identified positively by the girl who was still under treatment of a physician.

A posse of about 200 Colorado and Lavaca [illegible] intercepted the prisoner as he was taken to the Schulenburg jail by Constable O. B. Swinkey, and hanged him to a convenient tree in the heart of the city. A crowd estimated at 300 persons witnessed the lynching.

The negro is said to have admitted his guilt before he died.

The condition of the white girl was described as critical late tonight.

HANG NEGRO IN TEXAS

Identified As Having Made Criminal Attack on Young White Girl

SCHULENBERG, TEX., July 3—A negro whose name was withheld was hanged here today in the yard of the city hall here. He was identified as having made a criminal attack on a 13 year old white girl, living eight miles from town recently. Physicians here said the girl is in a serious condition.

The negro admitted he was guilty before he was hanged.

NEGRO LYNCHED IN TEXAS

AUSTIN, Tex., July 3.—Jesse Bullin, 23, Negro, was hanged late today in the City Hall yard at Schulenburg by a mob after he had been taken from the City Jail following the overpowering of City Marshal O. B. Schwenke. The Negro was being held as the suspected assailant of a 13 year old white girl, daughter of a farmed named Ulbrich, residing near Weimar.

Telephonic advices to this effect reached here late tonight.

TAMPA, FLA., Tribune

JUL 5 - 1923

Negro Is Lynched By Enraged Citizens of Schulenberg, Texas

SCHULENBURG, Texas, July 4.—About 200 enraged citizens of Fayette, Colorado and Lavac counties in south Texas, late yesterday took Jesse Bullock, 23, negro, from City Marshal C. W. Swinkey and lynched him. Bullock was strung up to a tree on Main street near the city hall. The negro, bystanders said confessed to having attacked a 12 year old white girl at her parents home near here.

ASHVILLA, TEX., Banner

JUL 4 1923

ASSAILANT OF CHILD LYNCHED IN TEXAS

After Being Identified as Guilty One Negro Is Strung Up.

Schulenberg, Tex., July 4.—(By Associated Press.)—Jess Bullock, 23-year-old Negro, believed to have come here from Cameron, Tex., was lynched on the main street of this town at 4 o'clock yesterday afternoon. Bullock was identified by a 12-year-old white girl as the Negro who had criminally attacked her at her parents' home near here shortly before noon.

The Negro was captured near the Navidad river bridge, following an alarm telephoned to town by farmers. He was taken back to the scene of the attack, about six miles from Schulenberg.

There the girl, still under the treatment of physicians, identified him as her attacker. A posse of 200 citizens intercepted Bullock as he was being taken to the Schlenberg jail by Constable O. B. Swinkey. He was taken to a convenient tree and strung up before a crowd estimated at more than 300 persons.

Bystanders said that as the noose was adjusted about his neck the Negro broke down and admitted he was guilty of the attack.

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Morristown Jerm Gazette

JUL 4 1923

NEGRO LYNCHED FOR OUTRAGE IN TEXAS

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Bullock was identified by a 12 year old white girl as the negro who had attacked her at her parent's home near here shortly before noon.

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Bystanders said that as the noose was adjusted about his neck the negro broke down and admitted he was guilty of the attack.

Birmingham, Ala., Age-Herald

JUL 4 - 1923

TEXAS NEGRO LYNCHED

Confesses To Attack Upon Twelve-Year-Old Girl

SCHULENBURG, Tex., July 3.—Jesse Bullock, 23-year-old negro, believed to have come here from Cameron, Tex., was lynched on the main street of this town at 4 o'clock this afternoon.

Bullock was identified by a 12-year-old white girl as the negro who had criminally attacked her at her parents' home near here shortly before noon.

The negro was captured near the Navidad river bridge following an alarm telephoned to town by farmers. He was taken back to the scene of the attack, about six mi[illegible] from Schulenburg. There [illegible]

Negro Hanged After Attack On Small Girl

Black Confesses Assault Near Schulenburg

Special Telegram to The Express.

SCHULENBURG, July 3.—Jessie Bullock, negro, 23, was hanged to a tree in the city hall yard here about 4:30 Tuesday afternoon, following his identification as the man who had made a criminal attack on a 12-year-old white girl named Ulrich, at the Ulrich home about eight miles from town at 11 o'clock Tuesday morning.

The negro, who stated that he was from Cameron and Eagle Lake, was taken before the girl and positively identified, after which he admitted his crime. He was then brought back to Schulenburg where he was hanged.

The negro appeared at the Ulrich home Tuesday morning while the little girl was alone, the rest of the family working in the nearby field. After trying to sell the girl a ring and being repulsed, the negro attacked her, later fleeing to a negro home in the neighborhood where he traded his hat for a cap, while making his way into Schulenburg in a roundabout manner, he was captured about 3:30 by two men from Weimer who had joined in the hunt with some 300 men of this city.

The little girl was brought to a local physician as soon as her condition was discovered. Her family had returned to the home shortly after the attack. She is in a critical condition.

Feeling, which ran high when the assault was made known, has subsided and the town is quiet. No effort was made to mutilate or burn the body of the hanged negro.

Texas Has Lynching

Schulenburg, Tex., July 4.—Taking Jesse Bullock away from a sheriff who was carrying him to jail charged with attempted assault, a mob immediately lynched him.

Lynchings—1923. Cases of

Virg

1544

NEGRO LYNCHED BY VIRGINIA MOB

Richmond, Va., October 13.—Horace Carter, 40-year-old Negro, of Walkerton, was taken from two officers near the King and Queen County courthouse last night and shot to death by a party of about 10 persons, according to word received here today. The Negro was being taken to jail charged with attacking a white woman.

Carter had been arrested an hour before at West Point by Officers Richard Mann and Henry Jones. They started for King and Queen jail in an automobile, but were intercepted about a half mile from the end of their journey, according to reports made to Sheriff Allen, the Negro taken from them and shot to death.

Six or seven shots were fired, according to persons in King and Queen who said they heard them plainly. Citizens of the town rushed to the scene along with the sheriff and other officers, but when they arrived they found Carter dead, with the handcuffs still on his wrists and his legs tied.—Atlanta Constitution.

VIRGINIA LYNCHES ONE

Richmond, Va., October 13.—Horace Carter, aged 40, was found shot to death on the States road here, handcuffs on his wrists and his legs tied.

Carter who was being taken to jail by two deputy sheriffs on the charge of attacking a white woman was taken away from the officers within sight of King and Queen County court house.

Virginians Lynch Negro for Assault

RICHMOND, Va., Oct. 13.—Horace Carter, negro, aged 40, met death at the hands of a party of 10 men Friday night while being taken to jail on the charge of having assaulted a white woman.

The officers were within half a mile of King and Queen court house when a party of men, in a dark place in the road, stepped up and demanded the prisoner, each of them carrying a big gun. They overpowered the officers and took the man, whom they shot several times without a word being spoken.

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NYC MAIL
OCTOBER 13, 1923

Man Lynched

Richmond, Va., Today.—Horace Carter, a negro, was taken from two officers near the King and Queen County courthouse last night and shot to death by a group of ten persons, according to word received here today. The negro was being taken to jail on a charge of having attacked a white woman.

Negro Taken From Police And Killed by Crowd

RICHMOND, Va., Oct. 13.—Horace Carter 40 year old negro of Walkerton was taken from two officers near the King and Queen county court house last night and shot to death by a party of about ten persons, according to word received here today. The negro was being taken to jail charged with attacking a white woman.

Virginians Lynch a Negro.

RICHMOND, Va., Oct. 13.—Horace Carter, a negro, was taken from two officers near the King and Queen County Court House last night and shot to death by a group of about ten persons. The negro was being taken to jail on the charge of having atacked a white woman.

Salisbury N.C.—Post

OCT 13 1923

NEGRO LYNCHED BY ANGRY MOB

Va. Negro Charged With Assault on a White Woman; Jail Rifled.

Richmond, Va., Oct. 13.—Horace Carter, 40 year old negro of Walkerton, was taken from two officers near the King and Queen county courthouse last night and shot to death by a party of about ten persons, according to word received here today. The negro was being taken to jail charged with attacking a white woman.

Carter had been arrested an hour before at West Point by officers Richard Mann and Henry Jones.

They started for King and Queen jail in an automobile but were intercepted about a half mile from the end of their journey, according to reports made to Sheriff Allen, the negro taken from them and shot to death.

Six or seven shots were fired, according to persons in King and Queen who said they heard the shots plain.

Citizens of the town rushed to the scene along with the sheriff and other officers but when they arrived they found Carter dead with the handcuffs still on his wrists and his legs tied.

1544

Lynchings—1923 General

1276

Discussions,

T C WORLD
JANUARY 3, 19..

Ku Klux Klan Denounced By Association of Negroes

The Ku Klux Klan was denounced at the annual business meeting of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People at the Russell Sage Foundation, No. 130 East 22d Street, yesterday.

The association expressed determination to continue its fight against the "horror and danger of lynching mobism," and urged the necesscity of keeping "intensely alive the sense of racial vigilance and the conviction that the future depends upon a realization by the race of what it is justly entitled to and a determination to secure it."

Opponents of the Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill were attacked by speakers at the "Down With Lynching" meeting in the Town Hall last night.

Civil Liberty Passing

The annual report of the American Civil Liberties Union brings to public attention the mounting American mob violence. It is not only increasing in the South, but is spreading to other sections.

"The figures compiled from the Union's records show that from September 1, 1920, to June 1, 1922, there were 85 lynchings, 51 cases of tarring and feathering, 127 floggings, and 450 forcible mob deportations. Striking facts brought out by the figures are that 30 of the 85 men lynched were white, as were 49 of the 51 persons tarred and feathered, and 90 of the 127 flogged. Five of the victims were women, of whom three were white. Negroes numbered less than one-third of those attacked. The Ku Klux Klan was identified with 53 of the mobs."

The report says, "While most of the mob violence took place in the South and Southwest, it was also well distributed through the Far West and Middle West, with fewer cases in the East. The record totals over 700 victims at the lowest possible count, and over 800 including riot victims. The figures are all doubtless low, because our records are necessarily incomplete, based only on inadequate press reports."

This report is encouraging. It is the most buoyant news we have read recently. *Over one-third of those lynched from Sept. 1, 1920, to June 1, 1922, were white people! Two-thirds of those attacked were white. Good news, the chariot's coming!* What do we mean by that? Elated that white people are tarred and feathered? Proud of their persecution? Not at all. We are simply overjoyed to see the lesson brought home to all races. We realize that so long as lynching and mob violence are confined to Negroes the majority of whites will rest on easy consciences, undisturbed about their Negro victimized brothers. *"The right hand will not know what the left hand doeth"; "the white hand* will not know what the black hand *goeth through with."* Where interests are common, however, alliances are advantageous. Again, the quickest alliances are formed when threats of common danger brood upon the waters.

This augmented American savagery should be the prelude to its end.

1276

Southern Women To Make Fight Against Lynching and Mob Law

Pittsburgh American

NEW YORK, Jan. 12.—Leading white women of the South have launched an organized move for the enactment of adequate State laws to suppress lynching. In unequivocal language they "resent the assertion that criminality can be combated by lawless outbreaks and woman's honor protected by savage acts of revenge."

The maintenance of a single standard of morals for both races is also included in their strong statement of principles. 1/12/23

On the heels of the fiasco staged in the United States Senate, resulting in the defeat of the Dyer Anti-Lynching bill, white women of prominence holding membership in the Southern Methodist Church, met in Atlanta and held a three-day conference on Christian principles in race relations. Thirteen States were represented.

Each delegate pledged herself to work individually and in an official capacity in an insistent and persistent campaign waged on behalf of law enforcement.

While the majority in attendance had not looked with favor on the Dyer bill, maintaining that an enactment of a Federal measure was unconstitutional, there was a unanimity of opinion at the Atlanta conference that it was the duty of each State to stamp out lawlessness and guarantee every citizen the protection of life and property.

The signed statement issued by the women of the Southern Methodist Church, follows:

"Whereas, the defeat of the Dyer Anti-Lynching bill, which provided Federal control of lynching, has thrown the whole responsibility back upon each State for removing this hideous crime; therefore,

"Be it resolved, That we, the commission on race relations of the Women's Missionary Council, Methodist Episcopal Church South, the conference of social service superintendents and other officers in conference in Atlanta . . . no now demand of the authorities of the several States that they make good their claim p[illegible] ing their competency to abolish mob violence and lynching.

"That we asume our responsibility as citizens for the protection of human life and hereby call upon all the people of all the States, upon the pulpit and upon the press to join in an insistent and persistent agitation against this barbarous practice.

"That we formulate plans for an organized movement in behalf of adequate State laws and law enforcement."

Preceding the Atlanta conference, white women of North Carolina met at Raleigh, became affiliated with the committee on race declaration of principles and purpose. The personnel of the group was composed of leaders of the State Federation of Women's Clubs, the State Welfare Board and church organizations.

After a session given to earnest study of the inter-racial situation, the group drafted and gave to the public the following statement:

"We believe that violence has no place where people lend their support in every possible way to the agencies constituted by the people for the apprehension, trial and punishment of offenders against society. We resent the assertion that criminality can be controlled by lawless outbreaks and woman's honor protected by savage acts of revenge."

ERADICATION OF LYNCHING APPARENT

One-fourth As Many Victims Now As Thirty Years Ago

Savannah Tribune
2-8-23

Atlanta, Ga., Feb 5—That the lynching evil is steadily being reduced, both as to numbers and area, and that its eradication is only a matter of years, is the substance of a statement given out by the Commission on Interracial Co-operation as the result of a careful study of the lynching record for the past forty years.

During that period, the statement points out, lynchings have occurred in forty-four states, in as many as thirty-three in a single year, (1892) and in an average of twenty-one states a year, whereas in 1921 only thirteen states had lynchings and in 1922 only ten. This indicates that the habit is being gradually pushed off the map.

The number of victims also has steadily decreased with slight variations, from the high mark of 255 in 1892 to 57 last year, the latter figure being only about half the annual average for the forty year period, which was 109. In addition, it is pointed out that there has been a notable decrease in the lynching habit in the states where it still persists. Last year's record represents a decrease of 27 per cent from the forty year annual average of 79 for the same ten states.

The figures for certain states where special efforts have been made to curb lynching are cited as particularly encouraging in their assurance that the habit can be overcome when public sentiment and law unite against it. For example, Alabama with a yearly average of eight lynchings for the forty years, has cut the number to two. Tennessee, with an average of six, had but two last year, and a total of only five in the last four years. Oklahoma and South Carolina, each with an average of four, had but one each in 1922. Louisiana, with an average of nine, has cut the record to three. North Carolina, Virginia, Missouri and Kentucky, each averaging from two to five victims per year for forty years past, had not a single one in 1922.

It was pointed out that in several states special legislation has been enacted and found very helpful in curbing lynching, among the most effective measures being a state constabulary under the control of the governor, as in Alabama and Tennessee, and provision for the removal of officers who surrender prisoners to mobs, as in Alabama, Kentucky and South Carolina. These two measures consistently applied, says the commission will make it possible for any state to reduce lynching to the vanishing point.

FLORIDA JUDGE SETS FOOT DOWN ON LYNCHING

Kansas City Star

Gainesville, Fla., Feb. 8.—In a long charge to the grand jury, Judge A. V. Long declared the action of justice of the peace in assuming jurisdiction of the cow stealing unwarranted and the action of the deputy in failing to place Abe Wilson, the accused, in the county jail a misconduct of office.

The charge of Judge Long, delivered extemporaneously, follows: 2-10-23

"The court charges you, gentelemen of the grand jury, that an order was issued that you reassemble for the reason that, subsequent to your dismissal the first week of the term, a homicide has been committed in this county, in which one Abe Wilson lost his life at the hands, presumably, a mob.

"The court desired to call your attention, first, to the fact that this man was charged with the larceny of a cow in a warrant issued by a justice of the peace of this county. It is the law of this state that no one shall be tried for a felony in the circuit court except upon an indictment found by a grand jury. The larceny of a cow, horse or cattle is a felony and punishable by not less than two years, nor more than five, in the state penitentiary. Regardless of this man's constitutional right and regardless of the fact that a justice's court had no right or authority to try and determine the guilt or innocence of Wilson, this justice of the peace, usurping the jurisdiction of a higher court, placed this man upon trial for petty larceny, valuing the cow at $15, and proceeded, in the night time, to try the case, rendering a judgment that he pay a fine of $300 and costs, or be committed to the county jail for a period of six months. Upon this judgment, void as it was, and upon a commitment issued by him, as void as the blank paper upon which it was written, this man was incarcerated, not in the common jail of Alabama County, but in a jail at Newberry, and taken therefrom and executed.

"It is also apparent from the files that this justice of the peace is the coroner who held the inquest; that without any examination of the body of Wilson by those competent to judge or determine the cause of death, that is to say, whether he died from hanging or whether he was murdered in some other way, and then hung up in order to throw responsibility upon an unknown mob, was not determined, but the verdict of the jury was that he came to his death by hanging.

Scores Deputy Sheriff.

"The court calls your attention to the fact that Alachua County has but one jail, and that it was the duty of the deputy sheriff not to have placed this man in a jail at Newberry, but to have transported him with all speed to the common jail of Alachua County, and delivered him into the custody of the sheriff.

Not Because He Was a Negro.

"It is not to be said that because the Wilson was a Negro that the fullest investigation should not be given. This court instructs you that it matters not his race or color, the law has been violated; constituted authority has been ignored and opposed, and it is your duty to sincerely, honestly and fearlessly make an effort to bring the guilty parties to justice. It has been well said that this government of ours is one that can protect the humblest citizen standing in the shadow of his little cot, as well as it can protect the wealthy in his castle of marble and gold.

The Execution of Wilson Was Just Plain Murder.

"The execution of Wilson was not a lynching in the plain acceptance of the term; he was not executed by an enraged populace whose reason had become dethroned because of the heinousness of the offense, nor was it to avenge the honor of some innocent woman, but it was murder, as foul as ever perpetrated and has reflected upon this county and the commonwealth of Florida and has been condemned in the great dailies and magazines of the country. If the officers of this county and yourselves as jurors, do not use their best efforts to determine who committed this disgraceful crime within the confines you shall be regarded as remiss in your duty and shall answer for this neglect in the last great day.

Refers to Resolution.

"My attention has been called to a resolution passed by the people of Newberry, assembled in the Methodist church of that city on January 29th, condemning in no unmeasured terms this violation of law in their midst. They are to be commended, and I feel that you will have no difficulty in obtaining from those assembled at that meeting anything that may be known to them with reference to this homicide."

SOUTH CALLED TO WAR!

Methodist Women Demand Mob Violence be Blotted Out—Planning South-Wide Campaign—Authorities, Pulpit, Press and People Called Upon to Unite.

The Gazette O. 12/23/22

Atlanta, Ga.—A movement to enlist the 250,000 organized women of the Southern Methodist church in a determined and systematic campaign for the suppression of lynching was launched here, last week. A large group of representative women (white) from thirteen states, all of them officials of the Woman's Missionary Council, or Conference Social Service Superintendents, met at the call of the Race Relations Commission of the Council, spent three days in conference, and at the conclusion issued a vigorous address to the public relative to the lynching evil, calling upon the authorities of the several states and counties for its complete suppression and upon the citizens, the pulpit and the press for their united support to the end. The defeat of the Dyer Anti-Lynching bill was used to give point to their utterance. They further pledged themselves, individually and in an official capacity as representing the social service leadership of the organized Methodist women, to a persistent campaign for adequate state laws and for law enforcement. Details of the plan are already being worked out. Their statement follows:

"Whereas, the defeat of the Dyer anti-lynching bill, which provided for the federal control of lynching, has thrown the whole responsibility back upon each state for removing this hideous crime; therefore,

"Be it resolved that we, the Commission on Race Relations of the Woman's Missionary Council, Methodist Episcopal church, South, the conference social service superintendents and other officers in conference in Atlanta, Dec. 4-6, '22, do now demand of the authorities of the several states that they make good their claim proving their competency to abolish mob violence and lynching.

"That we assume our responsibility as citizens for the protection of human life and hereby call upon all the people of all the States, upon the pulpit and upon the press to join in an insistent and persistent agitation against this barbarous practice.

"That we formulate plans for an organized movement in behalf of adequate state laws and law enforcement."

The Negro, North and South

Houston Post Houston Texas

The inconsistency of the attitude of some people of the North toward the negro is never brought out so clearly as when some shocking crime happens in which a negro is involved. 2-8-23

Ever since the days of abolition, the North has loved to lecture the South on the treatment of the negro. There has been much agony of spirit north of the Mason and Dixon line over the wrongs of the negro in the South. If a negro is mishandled in the South for some heinous crime, it is evidence of a lack of civilization in the South.

But let a negro commit a serious offense in the North against a white person, and what happens? Are all the beautiful platitudes on racial equality and brotherly love put into practice? The race riots in the North now and then answer that question.

Lawlessness is not to be condoned, either South or North. The best people of the South are just as much opposed to lynching as are the best people of the North. But for the sake of consistency, the North might well study its own methods.

The difference between the way the South meets a situation in which a negro is involved in unspeakable crime and the way the North meets a similar situation, lies in that while the South charges the crime to the individual negro, the North is prone to charge it to the race.

An example has just occurred in Indiana. Following the commission of a crime by a negro, the white population immediately demanded the evacuation of the negro population of several towns. The negroes were warned to leave by a certain hour. Negroes not remotely connected with the crime were classed with the criminal, and an attempt made to wreak vengeance on them.

Contrast that action with the action of the people of Houston at the time of the mutiny of negro soldiers in 1917. If ever the white people had provocation to wreak vengeance on another race it was furnished in that case. Bullying negro soldiers, encouraged by an undesirable class of vicious local negroes, openly attacked the town. A score of innocent white people were shot down in cold blood. Most of them died in ignorance of the mutiny.

Yet there were no reprisals by white citizens of Houston. There was no semblance of a riot. White citizens who aided the military forces in rounding up the members of the murderous negro troop, were duly deputized by the authorities. The negroes were lawfully apprehended, legally tried and convicted, and legally punished.

And after the disturbance, not a single negro was molested. No thought of driving the negro population from Houston ever entered the minds of the white people of the city. But had such an outrage occurred in the North, the chances are ten-to-one that the negro district would have been burned and the negroes driven out. Witness East St. Louis, Chicago, Philadelphia and other centers of recent racial disturbances.

The individual negro in the South who commits the unpardonable crime runs a risk of being lynched, it is unfortunately true. But if the negro race as a whole would perceive who deals most justly with it, let it compare the actions of Northern and Southern people when a negro gets into serious trouble.

IS LYNCHING FOSTERED BY THE IGNORANT WHITE MAN? NOT ALWAYS

New York Age 1-6-23

(By Jesse O. Thomas)

In a rural community in Georgia a young white man, who was teaching in the public schools, called his class together and lectured to them on the race question. He told his class that recently how he had taken part in a lynching, describing in every detail the conduct of the victim while the fearful punishment was being inflicted upon him and wound up by telling how the mob stepped back a certain distance and riddled the Negro's body with bullets. He told this story with the assurance of one who had performed a public service, but to his surprise, the patrons who were told by the students became indignant and the whole country side was inflamed with the spirit of resentment.

The spirit of mob violence and disregard for law and order that manifest itself in a certain form of barbarism is not confined to the ignorant white people as is herein illustrated.

The one element of encouragement and sign of hope was in the fact that the superintendent of the county, when told of the incident, discharged this teacher, with the absolute backing and support of the public sentiment of the majority of the community.

A man who is known to have participated in a lynching ought to lose his position; he should lose his liberty, if not his life.

Lynchings-1923.
Discussions.

General.

Barbaric Lynchings Ridiculed

9-29-23

Comic Cartoon in Russian Newspaper Tells of "Mob Rule" in "Cultured America."

(N. A. A. C. P. Press Service)

NEW YORK, Sept. 27.—In an interesting article on how the Russian people regard America, which appears in The New Republic of September 19, Arthur Ruhl, famous author and newspaper correspondent, tells of the effect upon the Russian people of news regarding lynchings and mob violence in the United States. Mr. Ruhl is now in Russia and in his article the The New Republic headed "What the Russians Think of Us," has this to say:

"A Moscow comic paper last summer published on its front page a cartoon consisting of two pictures in parallel columns. One, representing a group of African cannibals seated around a fire waiting for a helmeted white man to be ro[a]s was labelled 'in Barbarous A[fr]ica.' The other, representing a N[egro] burning at the stake, surrounded by a mob of gleeful whites, was labeled 'In Cultured America.' This aspect of our civilization, which puzzles nearly all Europeans, is an easy target for satire and every once in so often comes a cartoon of this sort or an editorial on The Brute With a Veneer of Civilization."

Louisville Ky.

APR 23 1924

Observer

Fewest lynchings in forty years was the record of the United States in 1923. The lynching record for 1923, numbering 28 victims, is only about one-third as high as the average for forty years. This statement was issued recently by the Commission on Inter-racial Co-operation, with headquarters in Atlanta. The next lowest record was 38 in 1917, the highest was 255 in 1892, and the average for the forty year period has been 109. The Commission points out also that the area affected is steadily being reduced, from thirty-three states in 1892 to nine last year. The Commission believes that public sentiment and faithful officials are determined to put an end to lynchings. On the other hand, the discouraging fact is pointed out that local courts last year failed almost utterly to apprehend and punish the members of mobs. In only three of the 1923 cases, so far as the Commission could learn, were any arrests made or indictments returned.

Lynchings — 1923. (2)
Discussions. 1465

Individuals.

CLAIMS MER ROUGE REPORTS OVERDRAWN.

Baltimore Manufacturers Record
2-15-23

Industrial Investment Company,
J. R. Edmonds, President.
Beaumont, Texas, Jan. 23, 1923.

Editor Manufacturers Record:

As a reader of the Manufacturers Record the writer was very much interested and impressed by your article "The Lawlessness Which Endangers Individual and National Safety," January 11 issue. He agrees with you that "these are not idle words; they are the living truth" but he disagrees as to the vileness of the Mer Rouge tragedy as reported by the news agencies, for to his mind it is a newspaper report and and not facts. In the first place, to a thinking man the report was impossible; bodies of flesh could not stay in Southern waters for the length of time claimed and be at all recognizable. Then the torture machine has never been located, or if so has not been reported.

Your humble servant is for law enforcement of every nature and against mob violence, but it has not been shown in this case that a mob had anything to do with the murder of the two men in question, if they were murdered.

To the minds of many people in this part of the country it is a case of Governor Parker seeking the limelight, and he has succeeded, and doubtless to the discomfiture of several law abiding citizens of the state of Louisiana.

Under separate cover a copy of The Beaumont News is being sent you that you may see the latest report by a paper that is seeking to publish the truth concerning any matter of public interest.

With best wishes for the larger success of the "EXPONENT of AMERICA."

J. R. Edmonds.

Nothing in the foregoing letter nor in the clipping enclosed in any way disproves the practical reign of terror in the Mer Rouge district. Even if Governor Parker, as claimed, were playing to the galleries he has at least shown that there is a degree of lawlessness in the Mer Rouge district which disgraces civilization and puts a blot upon the whole nation. Some of the Herrin, Ill., people have been acquitted of murder, but the murders were committed all the same. Not all the waters of the seven seas can ever wash out the stain of lawless criminality at Mer Rouge and Herrin, two names forever black in American history, for even if some of the charges made in Mer Rouge should prove untrue, enough sworn testimony has been brought out to damn the criminality of the community. If Mer Rouge can ever honestly clear itself of lawlessness and prove that no hooded men ever attacked men or women, no one will rejoice more than the Manufacturers Record.

CHURCHES ARE TOLD OF LYNCHING HORROR

Chicago Daily News
2-15-23

Federal Council Says Mobs' Crimes Are Like Scenes in Dante's "Inferno."

Washington, D. C., Feb. 15.—Like scenes from Dante's "Inferno" is the description of the tortures inflicted in lynching bees in various states throughout the country as compiled by the commission on the church and race relations of the Federal Council of Churches in its educational campaign against lynching.

The commission states that "it seems hardly believable" that the United States, with its Christian churches, homes, schools and courts, allowed, between 1885 and 1921, the lynching of more than 4,000 persons, the great majority of whom were negroes. Eighty-three of the victims were women, seventeen of whom were white.

Many "Lynched by Mistake."

The statement says:

"Some of those killed by mobs were charged with crime, many of them only misdemeanors; some only with words or acts which are nowhere at any time punishable by law. All were slain without trial where they might have faced their accusers, have had witnesses and have had the evidence considered by a lawful judge or jury. A frenzied mob was judge, jury, and executioner. In many cases persons not sought by the mobs have been lynched by mistake, so wild and savage has been the procedure.

"Some of the victims suffered indescribable torture, such as saturation of parts of the body with kerosene or gasoline, so that they could be burned piecemeal, or branded with hot irons.

"In some cases these atrocities have been perpetrated within sight of the churches of the community. A newspaper after describing a Sunday morning incident near the public square of a town, not far from two churches, says:

" 'Thousands of people witnessed this scene. They had to be pushed back from the stake to which the negro was chained. Roof-tops, second-story windows and porch-tops were filled with spectators. Children were lifted to shoulders that they might behold the agony of the victim.'

Are Often Definitely Planned.

"Lynchings are often definitely planned and carried out. Here are a few illustrations, chosen from accounts in leading city newspapers following lynchings:

"1. 'Late last night the jailer was enticed away from the prison on the pretense of a call to make an arrest. As soon as he was out of hearing a mob of 100 masked men went to the jail and took the keys from his wife, and securing the three prisoners, took them to the bridge and placed a strong rope around the neck of each, tied the other end of the rope to the timbers of the bridge, and compelled their victims to jump.'

"2. (Summarized.) 'Masked mob entered the jail at 2 a. m. and took out nine prisoners—one white man and eight negroes. Eight were shot to death, and one, a negro, escaped death after being wounded. The mob overpowered the town marshal and the jailer, carried the men out and tied them to fence posts by their necks, and then fired five volleys into their bodies. Only one of the prisoners had been convicted—a negro, under sentence of death for the murder of another negro.'

"3. '3,000 Will Burn Negro' (headline). * * * 'The lynching has now been fixed for 5 p. m. A committee of citizens has been appointed to make necessary arrangements for the event, and the mob is pleged to act in conformity with these arrangements. * * * Three thousand strangers are to witness the disposition of John Hartfield. * * * Officers are unable to control the crowds.'

"4. 'Avengers Set 6 O'clock as Lynching Hour' (headline). 'A party of seven in two automobiles, with Henry Lowry, negro murderer, stopped here Wednesday * * * to Richardson's landing, where they will cross and be joined by a party waiting on the Arkansas side, prepared to lynch Lowry promptly at 6 o'clock. (Later Associated Press dispatches gave full account of the burning as planned.)'

N Y C WORLD
FEBRUARY 12, 1923

LYNCHING THE WRONG MAN.

To the Editor of The World:

It seems worth while in the light of recent occurrences to call the attention of Americans to the subject of lynching the wrong man.

After E. C. Gregor, a white railway striker, had been lynched in Arkansas it was discovered that the wrong man had been lynched.

The newspapers of Feb. 9 report that the arrest and confession of a suspect in Waco, Tex., establish that the wrong man was shot and burned to death last year in Texas.

Public atrocities like lynchings, attended by anywhere up to 3,000 men, women and children, would be bad enough even if the guilt of the victim had been established. But when, in case after case, the innocence of the victim is afterward established the last vestige of apology for the crime of lynching receives its final body blow. Either there must be a guarantee of trial by due process of law to persons accused of crime, or our civilization, which is based upon law and its administration by duly constituted courts, must necessarily founder.

JAMES WELDON JOHNSON,
Secretary National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

N Y C POST
FEBRUARY 16, 1923

1465

Letters From Our Readers

Lynching the Wrong Man

To the Editor of the New York Evening Post:

Sir: It seems worth while in the light of recent occurrences to call the attention of Americans to the subject of lynching the wrong man. After E. C. Gregor, a white railway striker, had been lynched in Arkansas it was discovered that the wrong man had been lynched. The newspapers of February 9 report that the arrest and confession of a suspect in Waco, Tex., establish that the wrong man was shot and burned to death last year in Texas.

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Secretary National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

New York, February 12.

SOUTHERN WHITE CHURCH WOMEN FAVOR THE DYER ANTI-LYNCHING BILL

St. Louis Globe-Democrat
2-16-23

(Southern White)

COLUMBUS, Ga., Feb. 14.—At a meeting of the South Georgia Women's Missionary Society here last Tuesday resolutions were passed condemning mob violence and upholding the Dyer Anti-lynching Bill. One speaker said, "It is a blight on the fair name of these United States that such a bill as the Dyer Anti-lynching Bill should have been defeated in Congress. The horrible atrocities committed against Negroes principally throughout this country and more especially in the southern States with our own State and Texas leading the list of such uncivilized and diabolical crimes, are making this country the laughing stock of the world. When I was in Europe last summer Europeans referred to lynching as an American pastime. Some of them even were frank enough to ask about the wisdom of the United States attempting to act as guardian for conduct in Europe, when such things as lynching, mob violence and the Ku Klux Klan were so prominent in this country. We cannot hope to have our boasted superior civilization respected by other nations unless we clean house at home. The Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill was the first step toward curing one of our worst evils."

Anti-Lynching Bunk.

No colored person in his senses would object to Senator Joseph Frelinghuysen's (Rep. N. J.) resolution for a commission of five persons, to be selected by President Harding and the Senate to study the question of lynching for a year. Afro-American - Baltimore, Md. 2-2-23

Nevertheless, it is necessary to point out that WE ARE ENTIRELY UNWILLING TO SUBSTITUTE AN ANTI-LYNCHING COMMISSION FOR ANTI-LYNCHING LEGISLATION.

This Congress, President Harding, the Republican party thru word and platform are pledged to enact legislation to stamp out mob violence. Their attempt to date is far from convincing the country of their sincerity. Is the Commission idea a plan to "pass the buck" to the next administration?

The South will be as much opposed to anti-lynching legislation next year as this year. So far, 1923 has been a banner year for lynchers, and it is due to Republican dilly-dallying that not a single one has been punished.

"THE ZERO HOUR" APPROACHES

Amsterdam News New York 1/31/23

WEEK BEFORE LAST we carried a news story concerning the death of Major M. M. Lacy, of Mountain City, Ind., an aged "underground railroad" conductor, who is said to have assisted near 3,000 slaves "in their flight northward and to freedom." Beginning at the age of eleven Lacy devoted the best years of his life to this noble and courageous work. In all probability, after the close of the Civil War he, like thousands of others, believed that his work and service were at an end because no longer necessary. He, no doubt, thought that with the coming years the minds and hearts of his fellow white citizens would broaden and that black and white people would live side by side, enjoy the fruits of their labors and be protected in every right granted under the constitution.

BUT THE YEAR 1923 finds the Negro still seeking a place of safety, as in the case of residents of Blanford, the same state in which Lacy died, who were compelled to quit their homes, following the failure of the authorities to find a man alleged to have attacked an eleven-year-old girl, as reported in last week's news.

"WHEN THE ZERO HOUR APPROACHED," ran the despatch, "the last of the Negroes were on their way to Terre Haute and Clinton, near here. Many families did not wait for the time limit to expire, but left immediately after the warning."

THERE ARE SO MANY POSSIBILITIES in a case like this that it is almost needless to touch upon them, especially when they mean so little to those responsibile for law and order. To begin with the little girl may not have been attached at all. Then, it is possible that she was not attacked by a Colored man, and then, too, it is possible that if she was attacked by a Colored man it does not mean, necessarily, that the Colored residents of the town knew anything about it. These possibilities had absolutely no weight with the mob or with the authorities for the entire Colored population, numbering about one dozen families, was ordered either to produce the assailant of the little girl or leave the town. They chose the latter course, knowing that here in America, "the crucifixion of the guilty is still more awe inspiring than the crucifixion of the innocent."

NO ATTEMPT WHATEVER was made by the authorities to protect these families in their homes or in their property.

UPON ARRIVAL at Terre Haute and Clinton the refugees may find a haven of rest—for a while.

BUT THE TIME is fast approaching when Negroes seeking safety from mobs and lynchers will flee from one town to another to find that they will be greeted by other mobs and other lynchers; in which event a stand would have to be made against enemies both in the front and rear, and outnumbered one hundred or one thousand to one, we know what would happen to them. We have absolutely no assurance that this will not happen.

"THE ZERO HOUR" is fast approaching and we may as well prepare for it. In New York City, in Chicago, in Georgia, wherever there are people of color, they must begin to prepare for the time when all of us will be called upon to defend our homes and our lives against mob violence.

FRANKLY SPEAKING, we believe that it is advisable that colored people quit voluntarily all cities and towns where the number is so small as to be unable to put up a defense against cowards who so willingly take the law into their own hands. We believe that the time is ripe for an organization to be started which will help Colored people quit such towns and take such steps as are necessary to enable a citizen to be secure in his home against mob violence. We believe that it is much better to die defending one's home and family than to be burned alive.

IN OUR DEFENSIVE plan we must not overlook those traitors within our own ranks who are largely responsible for the serious condition in which we now find ourselves.

"THE ZERO HOUR" approaches. Let us prepare for it NOW.

WATERTOWN N.Y. STANDARD
JANUARY 31, 1923

A CRIME AGAINST CIVILIZATION

A mob in Harrison, Arkansas, lynched a man after fire had destroyed a railroad bridge. He was a union man and because of local ill-feeling toward the unions the organization was blamed.

It develops that the man who was hanged was working at the time of the lynching, the timekeeper being authority for this. It has further developed that two subsequent fires, similar to the one that led to the hanging, have been caused by live coals dropping on the bridge.

If anything more were needed to spur on public sentiment to force punishment of lynchers the Harrison tragedy should supply it. An innocent man hanged, an organization charged with a crime that probably it had nothing to do with. What a commentary on what we call civilization! Why even the savage tribes of the jungle have a better sense of justice than that.

Scratch a civilized man and you find a savage. The veneer of so-called civilization is very thin. The brute instinct to destroy crops out easily. Mob psychology governs the unthinking. The only cure seems to be a certain penalty for the offenders that will instill an instinctive fear, and deter even the unthinking from first lynching a man and then seeking evidence of guilt.

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VIEWS and REVIEWS

By James Weldon Johnson, Contributing Editor.

TWENTY-FOUR and TWENTY FIVE—QUICK SOUTHERN SADISM.

New York N.Y.
New York Post 1-13-23

A good many explanations have been given from time to time of the exhibitions of cruel and bestial savagery which so often take place in the South. Southerners themselves have condoned these exhibitions when they had to do with the lynching of Negroes by saying that the white men composing the mob were goaded to a frenzy of rage on account of some terrible crime committed by the lynched victim.

We know that this explanations is not true. Negroes have been tortured and lynched for quite trivial offenses. Indeed, in the cases of the most terrible crime, such as murder and rape, the mob is less actuated by uncontrollable anger than it is by other emotions. In every case of burning at the stake, there are always hundreds of persons taking part or standing around in whose actions anger plays a very small part. In most of such cases women are present in large numbers, some of them holding up their babies and small children to see the sight.

In the instance of the lynching of Ell Person at Memphis, Tenn., (a lynching which this writer personally investigated on the ground) the greatest anger displayed was by the members of the mob, especially the women, at each other in jostling for advantageous places from which to view the gruesome sight.

But even if we grant the explanation that the chivalry of the South often has its reason swept away because of some innate racial antagonism for which it is not responsible, how are we going to explain the motives which caused the mob at Mer Rouge, Louisiana, to practice upon two white men such unheard of tortures as were testified to in court last week. From the evidence given in the trial, these two white men, Richards and Daniels, were placed in some sort of torture machine which crushed almost to pulp every bone in their bodies. The pathologists testifying in the case said that the men were tortured slowly before death. No such devilishly devised punishment has been inflicted upon human beings since the days of the Inquisition. It is probable that when the Turks, whom Western Christians have been taught to regard as inhuman savages, read the reports of these Louisiana tortures they will do so with a sickening feeling at their stomachs. In this horrible torture to death of two white men the mob has no excuse of uncontrollable, deep-seated instinct.

What is it, then, that prompts Southern men to commit this inhuman practice? There are several reasons, each one of them stronger than the former:

1. The South never has been, is not now, and perhaps never will be as civilized as other parts of the country.

It is commonly supposed that the white men who settled America were all of the same type. Nothing is further from the truth. For instance, the men who landed at Plymouth Rock came to work, and the men who landed at Jamestown came to escape work. This was a difference that widened into a chasm which finally had to be bridged by a great Civil War.

2. The South was not only settled by a set of men who were originally of a weaker moral fibre than the men who settled the North but conditions have given them the opportunity to indulge in acts which have still more weakened their moral fibre and made them cruel and brutal. For more than two-hundred years they had the opportunity, and with immunity, of being cruel to the defenceless Negro, and today their characters are more cruel because of the fact that they took advantage of that opportunity.

3. This barbarity in the South is more than mere ignorance it is more than a mere lapse from civilization; it is actual degeneracy. The South with its views of civilzation which were current several centuries ago, views which it will not allow to be changed, the South with its determination to keep out new ideas or even a discussion of them, the South with all its economic and intellectual efforts restricted, hampered, hedged in and bound down by the monster which it has created and called the Negro problem—this South is not only lapsing from civilization, it is degenerating, it is becoming morally and physically pervert. The fact that its women and children can flock from miles around and fight for places to see a human being tortured with red-hot irons and then burned alive makes one wonder to what depths its men have fallen. These are signs of more than cruelty or barbarity; they are signs of Sadism.

HARTFORD CONN COURANT
FEBRUARY 6, 1923

The Lynching Record.

To the Editor of The Courant:—

It may be interesting for your Connecticut readers to know that only four states in the Union have never had lynchings. I have these statistics from the commission on the church and race relations of the Federal Council of Churches. The four states are Massachusetts, Rhode Island, New Hampshire and Vermont. There are only three states that have had no lynchings since 1889—New Jersey, Utah and Connecticut.

Nine other states have had a clear record during the last ten years. They are Nevada, Colorado, Minnesota, Iowa, Wisconsin, Michigan, Indiana, Delaware and Pennsylvania. This means that only 33% of the states of the Union have not had a lynching in the last ten years. At the same time it is pointed out that 83 women have been lynched since 1889. The churches are engaged in a nation-wide campaign against lynching and facts are being gathered.

A. E. Hungerford.

Washington, D. C., Feb. 4.

PHILA PA PUBLIC LEDGER
APRIL 22, 1923

AGAINST LYNCHING

To the Editor of the Public Ledger:

Sir—The final blow at the oft-reiterated untruth, that lynching protects Southern womanhod has come from the white women of the South. Through the Committee on Inter-Racial Co-operation, whose branches are active in the Southern States, leading women have repudiated this form of "protection," the latest public utterance of this nature being made recently in Louisiana. The Louisiana women say:

> We register herewith our protest against the barbaric custom of lynching, which arouses violent and un-Christian passions, brings law into disrepute, is inhuman and brutal and unknown outside of our land of America. We hold that no circumstances can ever justify such violent disregard for law and that in no instance is it an exhibition of chivalric consideration and honor of womanhood.

Among the States in which prominent groups of white women have met together and published similar statements are Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Texas and Virginia.

JAMES WELDON JOHNSON,
Secretary National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

April 19, 1923.

N. Y. TIMES
MAY 6, 1923

Lynching of Negroes.

* * * I am horrified to see that another negro has been added to the long list of those lynched. It appears that we white people consider ourselves the Lord's high commissioners. In order to spare Him any unnecessary work on the Day of Judgment we have constituted ourselves judge and jury and have sentenced these negroes to death by lynching. Doubtless some are guilty, but that is immaterial. The fact remains that, for the sake of our souls, we must not, dare not, descend to such barbarism, such animalism. The fact that college men and women—supposedly educated and cultured and the cream of American youth—took active part in this last lynching makes me ask: What is happening to civilization? What is happening to Christianity? MAY ELISH.

Brooklyn, April 30, 1923.

N Y C POST
MAY 9 1923

Lynchings Prove Need of Federal Law

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NEW YORK EVENING POST:

SIR: In the nation-wide editorial comment upon the outrageous lynching of James T. Scott, colored janitor at the University of Missouri, one or two facts have not received the emphasis that it seems they deserve.

The first is that at the very time the lynching occurred Representative Leonidas C. Dyer of Missouri, the State in which the lynching occurred, was on a tour of the Middle and Far West, speaking to audiences about the Dyer anti-lynching bill, whose passage was held up in the last session of Congress by the filibuster of a small group of Southern Senators.

The second fact is that the alleged assault for which the colored man was hanged without trial did not actually occur.

This outrage, together with the inaction upon the part of the State authorities and the failure to convict the murderers, which editors everywhere expect, is one of the best concrete arguments for the passage of a Federal anti-lynching bill that could possibly be adduced.

JAMES W. JOHNSON,
Secretary National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

New York, May 2.

EDUCATORS ATTACKING LYNCHING

It is good to know that the disgrace of the lynching custom which is a dark blot on the South is receiving the attention of the educational leaders and that a resolution signed by eight state superintendents of education, eight presidents of state universities, eighteen presidents of state technical and normal denominational universities and colleges, and twenty-four professors in universities and colleges.

The resolution itself reads as follows:

"We, the undersigned, engaged in the work of education, earnestly appeal to all citizens to exert their influence constantly and actively in condemnation of the crime of lynching.

We furthermore urge upon our State Legislators and Executives to enact, if necessary, and persistently to enforce, such laws as will tend to put a stop to this species of lawlessness."

When the real leaders of our people really set themselves to put a stop to this form of violence it will gradually be eliminated.

It is earnestly to be hoped that these leaders will exert all the influence at their disposal to create sentiment for the enforcement of the laws by the courts instead of their violation by the mobs.

We the undersigned, engaged in the work of education, earnestly appeal to all citizens to exert their influence constantly and actively in condemnation of the crime of lynching.

We furthermore urge upon our State Legislators and Executives to enact, if necessary, and persistently to enforce, such laws as will tend to put a stop to this species of lawlessness.

John W. Abercrombie, Ala.; Edwin A. Alderman, Va.; Dice R. Anderson, Va.; David C. Barrow, Ga.; Robert E. Blackwell, Va.; F. W. Boatwright, Va.; O. J. Bond, S. C.; W. F. Bond, Miss.; A. L. Bondurant, Miss.; E. C. Branson, N. C.; M. L. Brittain, Ga.; R. P. Brooks, Ga.; Samuel P. Brooks, Tex.; J. B. Brown, Tenn.; Julian A. Burrus, Va.; Pierce Butler, La.; Thos. Carter, Tenn.; W. S. Cathon, Fla.; Harry W. Chase, N. C.; C. E. Coates, La.; Edward Conradi, Fla.; Joe Cook, Miss.; H. W Cox, Ga.; Wm. S. Currell, S. C.; Geo. H. Denny, Ala.; Charles E. Deihl Tenn.; Albert B. Dinwiddie, La.; Jas. J. Doster, Ala.; Jerome Dowd Okla.; Spright Dowell, Ala.; M. D DuBose, Ga.; Samuel P. Duke, Va. Joseph D. Eggleston, Va.; H. F Estill, Tex.; J. C. Fant, Miss.; Wm P. Fews, N. C.; B. F. Finney, Tenn.; Julius I. Foust, N. C.; John C. Futrall, Ark.; Frank H. Gaines, Ga.; Sidney G. Gilbreath, Tenn.; John C. Hardy, Tex.; T. H. Harris, La.; C. J. Heathwole, Ga.; Archibald Henderson, N. C.; A. B. Hill, Ark.; J. H. Hillman, Va.; James D. Hoskins, Tenn.; W. M. Hunley, Va.; Theo. H. Jack, Ga.; J. L. Jarman, Va.; A. S. Johnson, Ga.; J. E. Keeny, La.; Jas. H. Kirkland, Tenn.; C. G. Maphis, Va.; S. M. N. Marrs, Tex.; Wm. J. Martin, N. C.; John Preston McConnell, Va.; Edwin Mims, Tenn.; S. C. Mitchell, Va.; H. A. Morgan, Tenn.; Josiah Horse, S. C.; Albert A. Murphree, Fla.; M. A. Nash, Okla.; Edward W. Nelhols, Va.; Franklin N. Parker, Ga.; Robert P. Pell, S. C.; Wm. L. Poteat, N. C.; Harrison Randolph, S. C.; W. C. Riddick, N. C.; Walter M. Riggs, S. C.; Howard E. Roundthaler, N. C.; V. L. Roy, La.; Henry Louis Smith, Va.; W. R. Smithey, Va.; G. E. Snavely, Ala.; Henry N. Snyder, S. C.; Edwin L. Stephen, La.; W. S. Sutton, Tex.; David Y. Thomas, Ark.; Robert E. Vinson, Tex.; John E. White, S. C.; S. T. Wilson, Tenn.

—Southern Churchman, Richmond, Va.

Atlanta Ga. Journal
AUG 12 1923

LYNCHINGS CAUSED BY PARDON POWER

Editor The Journal:—Who or what is responsible for lynch law? Undoubtedly the pardoning power. The following was recently announced from Atlanta: "Governor Walker has signed his first pardon, issued in behalf of Lige Lane, a negro serving a life sentence in Ware county chaingang. The governor acted on the recommendation of the State Prison commission. Lane was convicted in Clinch county ten years ago for criminal assault. Condemned to hang, his sentence was commuted to life imprisonment by Governor John M. Slaton."

Had this negro at the time of his trial been liberated by the jury on the case, in all probability the negro would have been lynched, or an effort made thereto, and an enraged community measurably propitiated for the brutal violence in its womanhood. For some reason, however, Governor John M. Slaton commutes the sentence to life imprisonment. From the gallows to life imprisonment, to ten years' service after several gubernatorial terms have intervened, Governor Walker, upon recommendation of the State Prison commission, sets this criminal free upon Ware county, Clinch county, Muscogee county: yea, on any county of any state in this great United States.

This case, and many similar ones, will inevitably recur to the people and in like perpetrations of crime lynchings are consequent, for which the pardoning power is primarily responsible.

While our Muscogee representative, Hon. Perkins, clamors to substitute the electric chair for the gallows, were it not grander still to lead the fight against the death penalty altogether? Death is death and it is but sheer speculation which were kindest in the article of death—a gallows, an electric chair, the firing squad, or, self-choosing to quaff hemlock.

Christ on the cross fulfilled to "the last jot and tittle" that old law from relentless Mount Sinai—a life for a life—but He unmistakably established retributive justice when He said: "Thou shalt not depart until thou hast paid the last mite."

So, to you, our legislators, we look for such laws as will make the vilest criminal responsible for his or her crime to the last mite. Let long or short terms be served impartially, irrevocably to the last mite. Good conduct, that may bespeak both repentance and reformation in the prisoner, deserves its reward as the law allows.

If we but realize it, God daily spares our lives that we may more completely be fitted for our final judgment before Him. The death penalty does not decimate crime, but in pronouncing it on another, man, himself but a weakling and a sinner, invites, yea, challenges, lynchings; and while this fact is not noted in the least extenuation of lynchings, the pardoning power never has, and never will, uphold to the fullest the majesty and justice of the law.

Civilization has too long ago outstripped humanity, and Christianity has too far eclipsed civilization for legalized murder to longer stalk from the jury box to the judge's bench, and, on to the prison warden, where the work is completed, and a soul, unheralded by its Maker, is blasphemously thrust before the judgment throne of Almighty God. In His name let the people of Georgia—that great seal, Wisdom, Justice and Moderation—yes, let every state in the United States, abolish the death penalty and in the terrible shadows of its wake let our legislators forever bury the pardoning power. And for the righteousness of such legislation statistics will prove.

MRS. C. C. GATEWOOD,
Columbus, Ga.

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Editor of several magazines. Japan is unlike it is about time to think that.

Is Japan Civilized?

The Houston Post
8-15-23
By Dr. Frank Crane.

You must judge whether or not a nation is civilized, not by your likes and dislikes, not by your fears nor your politics, but by certain definite standards. Houston

I find the cleanest list of these standards indicated in the Billings Lectures delivered by Dr. Jabez T. Sunderland. I will follow his order. Texas.

1. The first mark of civilization is public order. No civilization is possible without a general obedience to law on the part of the people. All authorities agree that there is no nation in the world where public order is better maintained than in Japan.

2. The next test is the spread of general intelligence and education. Every child in Japan from six to fourteen years of age is in school. Dr. Eliot of Harvard declared that Japan spends a larger proportion of her public money for education than the United States does, and has reached a higher standard.

3. Japan is full of newspapers and periodicals. Some newspapers have a daily circulation of a quarter of a million. Everybody, from the highest class to the lowest, reads.

4. There is as much political freedom, as much freedom of the press and of speech in Japan as in England. It has a constitution and representative government.

5. Civilization is tested by the degree to which a nation has turned from superstition to science. Japanese have as keen a zest for science as any other people. Her students are in universities all over the world, and many of her citizens have made their mark in original scientific research.

6. Art is highly developed among the Japanese. They are a nation of idealists, not materialists. Lafcadio Hearn said that Japanese art was a hundred years ahead of western culture, five higher agricultural schools, and America under prohibition, and far more than of the same people of Great Britain or Germany.

14. Crimes of violence are fewer than in d and smooth the United States and in most of the countries of Europe. Nothing in Japan is so horrible aphs and tele as the lynchings in the United States.

15. As to the social evil, Dr. Gulick says ly the cleanest that "the shameless immoralities to be found o their houses in New York, London, Paris and Berlin sur- excellent sani- pass anything in Japan."

16. The rumor has been widely circulated rced. hospital con- that the Chinese are more honest than the Japanese, so that Japanese banks have to have of civilization. Chinese cashers. This story is absolutely false. ate than even There are more than 2300 Japanese banks in Japan, and not one of them employs a Chinese

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THREE DISPATCHES.

On May 26, 1922, the newspapers of the country carried a dispatch from Waco, Texas, which read in part as follows:

Negro Killed; Then Burned By Waco Mob.

Waco, Texas, May 26.—Waco is quiet tonight following the killing and burning of Jesse Thomas, 23-year-old Negro service car driver, for the murder of Harrel Bolton and assault on his girl companion. Tension has been great, however, and on numerous occasions officers have been called to different parts of the city where alleged disturbances were reported, but none was found.

New York Age - New York, N.Y.

On February 9, 1923, the newspapers carried a dispatch from Waco, Texas, which read in part as follows: 2-17-23

Negro Admits 8 Murders; Innocent Man Lynched.

Waco, Texas, February 9.—Eight murders, for some of which an innocent man was lynched by a mob, a second condemned to die, and a third sentenced to the penitentiary, are declared to have been cleared up today by the confession of Roy Mitchell, a Negro, who is held here under guard. The man is said to admit three attacks on white women.

The police and the Waco national guardsmen were being mobilized this afternoon to defend the county jail in event attempt is made to get Mitchell. Rumors of the forming of a mob reached the authorities.

Mitchell, the police say, confessed to the slaying of Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Barker and Homer Turk. Two Negroes were arrested for the crime, and one of them, Cooper Johnson, is now awaiting execution. The othe is in prison. The man who was lynched becaues of the crime now laid to Mitchell was thought to have murdered Bolton and attacked his girl companion.

After the experience the young woman was confronted by the Negro who was suspected of the crime and identified him. The man was spirited away by a mob, shot to death, and then his body was burned.

When Harrel Bolton was killed nearly a year ago and the young lady he was with was assaulted, Jesse Thomas was seized as a suspect by the mob. He was taken before the girl and by her he was "identified." The lynchers then proceeded with their work.

The question should naturally arise in the minds of all persons as to how many times in the past this same sort of thing has happened. There are some people willing to condone the lynching of guilty men, especially when they are charged with some particularly heinous crime; but who does not shudder at the mere thought of lynching and burning at the stake a man who is innocent.

So long as lynching is tolerated, no one can be certain that the man done to death is guilty. It is difficult sometimes to establish guilt or innocence even after an orderly trial by law. How much less probable is it ,then, to arrive at the truth in the haste and frenzy of mob action.

Mob law must be abolished not only to safeguard innocent men but also because of civilization, which is based upon law and its administration by duly constituted courts, will end in chaos if we cannot guarantee to every citizen accused of crime trial by due process of law.

Reports of Cold-Blooded Lynchings Rival 'Inferno'

N Y C CALL
FEBRUARY 17, 1923

WASHINGTON, Feb. 16.—Like scenes from Dante's "Inferno" is the description of the tortures inflicted in lynching bees in various states throughout the country, as compiled by the Commission on the Church and Race Relations of the Federal Council of Churches in its educational campaign against lynching.

The stories almost pass belief, and yet they are taken from accounts written by newspaper men in the communities in which they occurred.

The commission states that it seems hardly believable that America, with its great Christian churches, homes, schools and courts, allowed, between 1885 and 1921, the lynching of more than 4,000 persons, the great majority of whom were Negroes. Eighty-three of the victims were women, 17 of whom were white.

The statement says:

"Some of those killed by mobs were charged with crime, many of them only misdemeanors, some only with words or acts which are nowhere at any time punishable by law. All were slain without trial where they might have faced their accusers, have had witnesses and have had the evidence considered by a lawful judge or jury. A frenzied mob was judge, jury and executioner. In many cases persons not sought by the mobs have been lynched by mistake, so wild and savage has been the procedure. Some of the victims suffered indescribable torture, such as saturation of parts of the body with kerosene or gasoline, so that they could be burned piecemeal, or branding with hot irons.

Within Churches' Sight.

"In some cases these atrocities have been perpetrated within sight of the churches of the community. Here is a newspaper description of a Sunday morning incident near the public square of a town, not far from two churches:

"'The Negro was seated on the ground and a buggy axle driven into the ground between his legs. His feet were chained together with logging chains, and he was tied with wire. A fire was built. Pokers and flatirons were procured and heated in the fire. It was 30 minutes before they were red hot.

"'His self-appointed executioners burned his eyeballs with red-hot irons. When he opened his mouth to cry for mercy a red-hot poker was rammed down his gullet. Red-hot irons were placed on his feet, back and body until a hideous stench of burning human flesh filled the Sabbath air.

"'Thousands of people witnessed this scene. They had to be pushed back from the stake to which the Negro was chained. Rooftops, second-story windows and porchtops were filled with spectators. Children were lifted to shoulders that they might behold the agony of the victim.'

How Another Burned.

"A description of another burning was as follows:

"'The captors proceeded to a spot about a quarter of a mile from the railroad station and prepared the death fire. The crowd followed and remained throughout the horrible proceedings. The Negro was led to a hickory tree, to which they chained him.

"'After securing him to the tree a fire was laid. A short distance away another fire was kindled, and into it was put an iron bar to heat.

"'When the bar became red-hot a member of the mob jabbed it toward the negro's body. Crazed with fright, the black grabbed hold of it, and as it was pulled through his hands the atmosphere was filled with the odor of burning flesh. This was the first time the murderer gave evidence of his will being broken. Scream after scream rent the air. As the hot iron was applied to various parts of his body his yelling and cries for mercy could be heard in the town.'

"Here is a newspaper description of still another typical scene:

"'Burn Negro to Death by Inches' headline). . . . With the Negro chained to a log, members of the mob placed a small pile of leaves around his feet. Gasoline was then poured on the leaves, and the carrying out of the death sentence was under way. Inch by inch the Negro was fairly cooked to death.. Every few minutes fresh leaves were tossed on the funeral pyre until the blaze had passed the Negro's waist. As the flames were eating away his abdomen, a member of the mob stepped forward and saturated the body with gasoline. It was then only a few minutes until the Negro had been reduced to ashes.'

Lynchings are often definitely planned and carried out. Here are a few illustrations chosen from accounts in leading city newspapers following lynchings:

"1. 'Late last night the jailer was enticed away from the prison on the pretense of a call to make an arrest. As soon as he was out of hearing a mob of 200 masked men went to the jail and took the keys from his wife, and securing the three prisoners, took them to the bridges and placed a strong rope around the neck of each, tied the other end of the rope to the timbers of the bridge and compelled their victims to jump.'

Eight Prisoners Shot.

"2. (Summarized) 'Masked mob entered the jail at two a. m. and took out nine prisoners—one white man and eight Negroes. Eight were shot to death, and one, a negro, escaped death after being wounded. The mob overpowered the town marshal and the jailer, carried the men out and tied them to fence posts by their necks and then fired five volleys into their bodies. Only one of the prisoners had been convicted—a Negro, under sentence of death for the murder of another Negro.

"3. Three Thousand Will Burn Negro (headline). . . . The lynching has now been fixed at 5 p.m. A committee of citizens has been appointed to make necessary arrangements for the event and the mob is pledged to act in conformity with these arrangements. Three thousand strangers are to witness the disposition of John Hartfield. . . . Officers are unable to control the crowds.'

"4. Avengers Set Six o'Clock as Lynching Hour (headline). A party of seven in two automobiles with Henry Lowry, Negro murderer . . . stopped here at 12:30 o'clock Wednesday afternoon. . . to Richardson's landing, where they will cross and be joined by a party waiting on the Arkansas side, prepared to lynch Lowry promptly at six o'clock.' (Later Associated Press dispatches gave full account of the burning as planned.)"

Churches Declare War on Lynching Throughout U. S.

N Y C CALL
FEBRUARY 6, 1923

4,097 Persons, Including White and Black, Male and Female, Slain by Mobs.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 6.—"Only four states in the Union have never had a lynching," according to a statement issued today by the Commission on the Church and Race Relations of the Federal Council of Churches. They are: Massachusetts, Rhode Island, New Hampshire, and Vermont.

There are only three other states that have had no lynchings since 1889: New Jersey, Utah and Connecticut

Nine other states have had a clear record during the last 10 years. They are: Nevada, Colorado, Minnesota, Iowa, Wisconsin, Michigan, Indiana, Delaware, and Pennsylvania. This means that only 32 per cent of the states of the Union have not had a lynching in the last 10 years. At the same time, it is pointed out that 63 women have been lynched since 1889. The churches are engaged in a nation-wide campaign against lynching, and facts are being gathered.

Lawlessness Startling.

"The total number of persons lynched, by years, gives a startling picture of lawlessness," the statement continues. "There was a slow decrease from the climax in 1892 and 1893 down to 1906. During the latter year and 1909 there was an increase, then another slo decrease until 1916, when a tendency to increase was again manifested.

"The sex of the victims in the cases where a record has been made shows an alarming number of women. Since 1889 there have been 83 women, 17 white and 68 colored, killed by mobs. Some of them were put to death with savage tortures, such as burning and disemboweling. Such brutality might be expected in pagan times or heathen countries, but by no means in a civilized land today."

Every three out of four of those lynched during the period from 1885 to 1921 were black. In this connection the statement says:

1,028 White, 3,069 Colored, Slain.

"The list of victims of mob violence reveals the slough of prejudice out of which the evil springs. From 1885 to 1921, inclusive, 1,028 white persons and 3,069 colored persons were slain by lynchers. The number of white victims, however, has rapidly decreased since 1900. Among the victims classed as white were a German (during the war), Italians, Mexicans and Jews—indicating that lawlessness spreads where prejudice abounds. Except in two years since 1903 the number of white victims has been less than 10 each year. The number of Negro victims during the same period has fluctuated slowly downward to range between 50 and 100, except in 1918, when the number reported was 104, and in 1917, when the number reported was 88. There is some evidence to indicate that during recent years Negroes have been lynched and the facts concealed from the press, so that no record has been secured."

Protestant churches throughout the country will observe Sunday, February 11, as Race Relations Sunday, when they will begin a campaign of education against lynching.

The Warning Signs

A SACRILEGE THAT RUINS

(The following is issued by the Committee on Church Co-operation.)

That convict's back scarred by the unlawful lash.

The prisoner lynched by the mob in mask and gown.

Religious intolerance.

These things should be considered by us in the light of Georgia's Constitution, wherein our fathers wrote:

"To perpetuate the principles of free government, insure justice, to all, preserve peace, promote the interest and happiness of the citizen, and transmit to posterity the enjoyment of liberty, we, the people of Georgia, relying upon the protection and guidance of Almighty God, do ordain and establish this constitution."

This great purpose, born of centuries of struggle and sacrifice by men led of God, underlies the government and laws of Georgia. Our children should be taught this, as they learn to lisp their prayers at their mothers' knees.

Our constitution declares:

"All government, of right, originates with the people, is founded upon their will only, and is instituted for the good of the whole. Public officers are the trustees and servants of the people, and at all times amenable to them.

"Protection to person and property is the paramount duty of government, and shall be impartial and complete.

"No person shall be deprived of life, liberty or property, except by due process of law.

"Every person charged with an offence—shall have a public and speedy trial by an impartial jury.

"Neither banishment beyond the limits of the state nor whipping as a punishment for crime shall be allowed.

"Excessive bail shall not be required, nor excessive fines imposed, nor cruel and unusual punishments be inflicted; nor shall any person be abused in being arrested, while under arrest or in prison.

"All men have the natural and inalienable right to worship God, each according to the dictates of his own conscience, and no human authority should in any case control or interfere with each right of conscience."

Sacred Things Attacked.

These are sacred sentences. Every word in them has behind it the bitter experience of generations of men, many of whom sacrificed life itself in battling against ignorance, superstition and tyranny.

Doubtless the law against the lash had its inception in the cruel gashes cut in our savior's back by the Roman scourge.

The bruised and bloody stripes across yonder convict's quivering flesh warn us that this law is being disgraced in Georgia. The scourge, that instrument used by tyrants to crush the manhood of men, was outlawed in Georgia forty-six years ago.

Shall this safeguard, framed by our fathers, against tyranny and inhumanity be lost by us?

Notices warning citizens of Georgia to leave the state or suffer death have been found nailed to church doors. Churches have been burned. Men and women have been beaten and killed by mobs wearing masks and gowns.

From 1885 to 1922, in these United States, 4,154 persons were put to death without the semblance of a trial by jury. Eighty-three of these done to death by mobs were women. Several of them were about to become mothers. Others had nursing babies.

These women could scarcely be charged with that "unmentionable crime" usually offered as an excuse for lynching. In fact of the 4,154 killed by mobs, only 829 were charged with that crime.

But the whole 4,154, some shot, many burned with tortures that would make the lowest savage shrink and blush, and others hung, cry their warning that the tyrant mob in masks is undermining the very corner stone, laid by our forefathers to support our blood-bought liberty, the right of every citizen, when charged with crime, to a trial in the open by an impartial court and jury.

Those in Office.

Does it excuse the action of the mob, when our prison commission, composed of three men sworn to uphold our constitution, proposes to continue lashing the backs of citizens of Georgia, in spite of the constitution, and informs Governor Hardwick that the law, which requires the governor's approval to all rules touching the control of convicts, gives the govenor no authority to put a stop to this brutality?

If these men in office can so disregard the governor and the constitution—

What must the criminal element, from whom come the mobs, be saying and thinking?

When heedless hands were laid upon the Ark of the Covenant, which led Israel's march from slavery and the unformed mob into freedom and the organized nation, death smote them.

Is not the lawlessness, causing unhappiness and fear throughout our land, due to the heedless, thoughtless, and impious hands, which have been laid upon our Ark of the Covenant, our constitution and laws, the doing violence to these things, which are infinitely more sacred than that wooden chest, borne on priestly shoulders in the vanguard of the march of Israel into the promised land so long ago?

Whatever may be the criminal's thought, surely God is calling every man in public office, the head of every household, and every man, woman, and child, who loves Georgia and believe in the future of our great state, to show and teach, by word and act, respect for these principles which are embodied in our constitution and laws.

In that way, we shall find and preserve liberty and life.

All other ways lead to tyranny and death.

THE COMMITTEE ON CHURCH CO-OPERATION

MOB EVIL NATIONWIDE, COMMISSION DECLARES

Only Four States Have Never Had Lynchings.

(By Chicago Tribune-The Commercial Appeal Leased Wire.)

WASHINGTON, Feb. 6.—"Only four states in the Union have never had a lynching," according to a statement issued today by the commission on the church and race ralations of the Federal Council of Churches. They are Massachusetts, Rhode Island, New Hampshire and Vermont.

There are only three other states that have had no lynchings since 1889—New Jersey, Utah and Connecticut.

Nine other state have had a clear record during the last 10 years. They are Minnesota, Iowa, Wisconsin, Michigan, Indiana, Delaware, Pennsylvania, Nevada and Colorado.

"This means that only 33 per cent of the states of the Union have not had a lynching in the last 10 years," the statement says.

DULUTH, Minn., Feb. 6.—Inclusion of Minnesota in the list of states which have been free from lynchings during the past 10 years is erroneous, it was pointed out here today, records showing that three negroes were hanged by a mob here June 15, 1920, following an attack on a white girl.

SAYS NEGROES ARE DENIED DEMOCRACY

ROCHESTER N Y CHRONICLE
FEBRUARY 3, 1923

Director of Anti-Lynching Crusad Speaks before Women's Union.

No negro has ever enjoyed democrac in the United States, declared Mrs. Mar Talbert, of Buffalo, yesterday afternoo before the Womens' Union at the Bapti Temple. Mrs. Talbert, whose paren parents were slaves, is national directo o the anti-lynching crusade. Yesterda she outlined the conditions leading the organization of this crusade and th manner in which it has been carried o

That 3,809 lynchings have taken plac in the past thirty years, eighty-thre victims being women, was the assertio made by the speaker, who said that ther are only three states in the Unite States where lynchings have not occu red. "A challenge has been thrown the Christian churches on bith sides o the water to unite in preventing another such debacle as that of a few months ago," Mrs. Talbert said.

Mrs. Talbert said that the anti-lynching crusade was formed shortly after the failure of the Dyer bill to pass the Senate. Fifteen colored women founded the organization.

"Great aid has been given the colored people of the South by the women missionary societies of the North," said the speaker, "and now the white women of the South are uniting in their efforts to drive out the lynching custom. Many of these women have joined the crusade and what the white women of the South want, they usually get.

"In the South to-day there are more than 4,000 colored schools. This is necessary as school privileges are denied the negro in the South. Many times colored children receive but eight or ten weeks schooling. The black boy and girl do not ask for alms, but for opportunity."

LYNCHING MUST STOP SAY GEORGIA BAPTISTS

Duty of Church to Sound Its Death Knell—No Exceptions Recognized

Atlanta, Georgia, Dec. 8 (Special)—The Georgia Baptist Convention, in session here this week, adopted by unanimous vote one of the most scathing denunciations of lynching on record and called upon the good citizenship of the country, as represented in the churches, to sound its death knell. Whatever the pretext, said the Convention, lynching is murder, barbarous, heathenish and diabolical, a cancer on society, and a disgrace to civilization. Mobs, it denounces as a menace to government, society and the church.

The statement was presented by Rev. L. A. Henderson, of Columbus, Ga., as part of the social service report, and is as follows:

"The perpetuity of free institutions is conditioned upon obedience to law and proper respect for constituted authority. The most barbarous, heathenish and unchristian form of lawlessness with which we have to deal is lynching, or mob violence. It is a cancer on our body politic, and a disgrace to our Christian civilization. How any man can muster up enough audacity to claim Christianity and join a mob and assist, or even approve, the murderously taking away of human life, no matter on what pretense or reason, is incomprehensible and preposterous.

"The Christian church, surely our own, must sound the death knell to anarchy in all its forms; but more especially when a band of men arrogate to themselves the right to become government, court, jury, witnesses, and thus proceed to commit murder. It is diabolical. It is hellish. It puts government, society, and the church at the mercy of the hobgoblins of the underworld. We must admit of no exceptions. There are none."

Lynchings—1923.
Discussions.

A SLANDER ON THE SOUTH.

A Southern Man's View of the Negro Question.

Jeffress, Va., July 29.

Editor Manufacturers Record:

In the Literary Digest for July 28 is a cartoon from Miner, in the Liberator, showing a stream of negroes leaving the South, with two large trees in the back-ground where there is a fire burning one negro, and on each of the trees are hanging three more negroes. This picture is a slander. It is true The Digest gives both sides of a question, which is proper, but more care should be taken in cartoons than in pen pictures. In the former you only see one side and if the written picture is not read the observer only gets one side. Many look but do not and cannot read.

This cartoon is followed by an article "Why Lynching Has Slumped." Neither the Southern nor the Northern papers give the true cause for the slump. I think the reason for the improved condition is that the greater number, perhaps 80 per cent of negroes who have left the South are the floaters and the most undesirable class.

Now I am going to make the Digest an off-hand proposition without making any investigation myself. I will leave this to them or to you. They report in this article, 11 lynchings for the first six months of 1923. For each negro lynched who was a property owner I will give them $10.00 per head. For each negro married I will give $5.00 a head, they to give me $2.00 for each non land-owner and $1.00 for each single negro lynched, provided they will accept this before making the investigation.

I am 59 years of age. My father owned slaves. I grew up with negro boys, played with them, ate with the colored "Mammys" when a boy and they were my best friends. I have worked from 20 to 75 negroes all my life, have 25 on my payroll now. For certain work I prefer them to white labor, because I know them and can handle them with less trouble. However the floater is not desirable. He has to be watched and if you are not with him all the time he will beat you. He has trained himself to this and can get away with it to perfection. I know the negro from a to izard. As a rule the North is getting the "scum" just as we are getting it from over the seas.

Within 5 miles of me are three negro churches and three negro schools, as against two white churches and one white school. Within the same radius there are three colored stores and three white stores. I know many places in Virginia where you can walk two to ten miles and not get off colored property. In fact the negro is putting more farms on the land books than are the whites, when not considering extra large tracts. These negroes don't want social equality. They don't care two cents about the "Jim Crow" cars. They only want justice and they always get it here. Some of the negroes are absolutely reliable; many of them wish and try to be so, but owing to their undeveloped minds they miscalculate and make promises they cannot meet. This apparent unreliability is really the outcome of bad judgment and miscalculations. Some negroes are absolutely unreliable, as are many white men. As a whole the negro is a desirable asset and one we expect to keep.

Individuals.

I have sold four farms to negroes during my life. The last one was to Wm. Milliner colored, of Axton, Va. in Henry County, about four years ago. He made a cash payment and the second payment, then there was a bad crop year and I extended his time. Last year a heavy hail storm tore up his tobacco crop and I had to give him additional extension. I am not going to foreclose him if it takes him 10 years to pay for the property so long as it is not his fault, and he keeps the interest paid. Now I am not blowing my Golden Rule virtues, but simply giving you what is generally practised by other whites in this section in dealing with the negro.

Why the North persists in abusing the South and broadcasting false reports regarding the treatment of the negro I can't understand. I will defy any Northern man to come South, that is to this section, and find that the negro has been mistreated in any way. Thousands of them own farms, horses and automobiles and have made a most wonderful stride since the war of '64, with the help of the white man. The help could not come from any other source than the whites.

D. F. DUNLOP.

RESOLUTION.

Woman's General Committee Commission on Inter-Racial Cooperation.

Asheville, N. C., August 1, 1923

Whereas, Lynching—at one time practised only as punishment by the mob for the violation of womanhood, is now resorted to even for robbery, petty crime, or no crime, and

Whereas, At present the responsibility for the punishment of lynchers and the abolition of the evil rests solely in the several State Governments, and

Whereas, We the Woman's Committee of the Commission on Inter-Racial Co-operation, are overwhelmed with a deep sense of humiliation that this hideous crime is heralded abroad as the only means available to men for the protection of womanhood, and

Whereas, We likewise suffer because of the seeming importance of our State Governments in the protection of human life and in their inability to find and punish lynchers and members of mobs, who, in the absence of sufficient law enforcement by the regularly constituted authorities, presume to assume the role of judge, courts and jury, thus themselves becoming the greatest of law violators, therefore

BE IT RESOLVED,

1. That we deplore the failure of State Governments to handle this—the most conspicuous enemy to justice and righteousness and the most flagrant violation of the Constitution of our great nation.

2. That we definitely set ourselves to the task of creating such sentiment as is possible to us in each State of our territory to the end that not only sufficient laws shall be enacted to enable the trusted officers of the law to discharge their full duty, but to secure the enforcement of the laws now in existence.

3. That the Director of Women's Work, Mrs. Luke Johnson, Palmer Bldg Atlanta, Ga., of the Commission be and is hereby instructed to secure the presentation of this resolution to all our co-operating organizations and State Committees, and further, to put into effect such plans as are necessary to secure a sustained effort on the part of our women to the accomplishment of these ends.

MRS. T. W. BICKETT, Chairman
MISS EMMA WHITFIELD, Secretary

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Lynchings—1923
Discussions.

Individuals.

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NEW YORK HERALD
JANUARY 3, 1923

FRIENDS OF NEGROES DENOUNCE LYNCHING

Rabbi Wise Scorns Warning to Be Absent and Assails Klan at Meeting.

The Association for the Advancement of Colored People held a "down with lynching" meeting last night at the Russell Sage Foundation, 130 East Twenty-second street, the speakers denouncing the Ku Klux Klan and opponents of the Dyer anti-lynching bill, when pending in Congress. The principal address was made by Dr. Stephen S. Wise, rabbi of the Free Synagogue. The other speakers were Mrs. Mary B. Talbert of Buffalo, James Weldon Johnson, executive secretary of the association, and former United States Consul to Nicaragua, and Mrs. Mary White Ovington, chairman of the board of directors.

The annual report declared that the "American nation is aroused as never before" and pointed out the necessity of keeping "intensely alive the sense of racial vigilance and the conviction that the future depends upon a realization by the race of what it is justly entitled to and a determination to obtain it." The report also said that through an advertising campaign costing thousands of dollars a public sentiment demanding the abolition of lynchings has been created.

According to the report, campaigns against segregated public and high schools have been begun in several States and in some cities ordinances have been passed prohibiting parades of the Ku Klux Klan. The report said also that sixty persons were killed by mobs in the United States in 1922, Texas leading with sixteen and Georgia following with eleven.

Dr. Wise said that he had been warned against attending the meeting because it might be said that he, a Jew, was ready to have it appear that he was indifferent to any crime committed by negroes and that he had joined the fortunes of his race with the negroes.

"I'm indifferent to what any member of the K. K. K. may say about me or my people," said the rabbi. "Their hatred is my honor."

Rabbi Wise made a vehement defense of the Jews and exhorted his hearers to "have courage and fear not."

MOB RULE AND DEMOCRACY.

Atlanta Georgian

Ever since 1889 mob rule has been on the ascendancy. It has rapidly spread from the South, its hotbed, where it was instituted to the horror of black people only to all parts of the country, and to all races, and the causes of which have begun to range all the way from the one crime to a failure to doff one's hat to another. Facts and figures declare that during the past forty years, upwards of four thousand persons have died at the hands of mobs, and each year the atrocities are growing in horrors and in numbers until now mob law threatens to overthrow the entire government. 1-4-23

A mob is commonly known to be a riotous assembly of persons of the lower class of a community or populace, which takes the law into its own hands, often confiscating property and taking lives. This practice, contrary to all laws of regulated society, has been gnawing at the very vitals of the nation; destroying respect for the laws of the land, both local and national, and has reached such an alarming stage that no one, white or black, rich or poor, officer of the state or national government, can feel secure when a crowd of blood-lusty devils has assembled to correct some wrong.

We have contended for a long time that lynching could not be localized; nor could it be confined to any particular group or race of people. These facts have been proven in that mob rule has spread to all parts of the country, and all classes of persons have suffered at the hands of mobs, even mayors and governors who dared take a view contrary to the views of this lawless element.

It has generally been accepted that the majority of the people were law-abiding citizens; that the best element of a community would not participate in a lynching; that this best element disapproved mob violence, and occasionally some one of this element had the moral courage to openly condemn lawlessness. But, while this is true, we have always contended that the best element was in control of the community—made and executed the laws by which all the people of the community were governed—and had the power to stop mob violence when it desired. We still believe this to be true. But, it has appeared all along that this best element has silently condoned, or openly approved this mobbing of human beings, and it is only recently that sentiment of any weight has begun to assert itself, and some feeble effort is being made to put down this malady that is sapping the very life out of the machinery of good government and threatening civilization.

Mob rule is contrary to every principle of democracy and destructive to every effort to higher civilization. Here in America we have long thought we had a democracy. We delight in referring to our government as democratic, and take pride in holding it up as a fitting example of what governments ought to be, when in truth the democracy we have is representative, founded on the principles of preserving to the greatest extent the rights of individuals of race or class. It has enacted laws by representative bodies chosen from the electorate and delegated many powers to officials higher up, often far removed from the direct control of the people. A democracy in truth is one where direct control is in the hands of the mass and individualism of the ego type is lost sight of; where legislative and executive powers are placed directly in the hands of the people for their use in preserving to the greatest possible extent the right of life, liberty and the pursuits of happiness for the individual, consequently preserving the same God-given rights for the mass.

The great American spirit of democracy, born in the day of Patrick Henry and perpetuated in the Treaty of Paris, has not yet crystallized into that form of democracy in which one's privileges are not based on birth, or wealth, or public service, or race, and abridged because of the same. It has not yet reached that form where a substantial equality of legal, industrial and political rights prevails as it affects all of the people.

Here in America two great parties vie with each other for control of the governmental affairs. When one is in control, the other is eliminated; when either is in control, certain classes, sects, and races are eliminated; when the democratic party is in control, the Negro is completely eliminated; when the republican party is in control, he is given a crumb or two and fed up on promises. Regardless to what party controls, a part of the people must suffer at the cost of the principles of democracy and civilization.

Only recently the Dyer Bill proved the disastrous consequences of a two-party attempt at control of measures that affect the people. By a minority filibuster, the majority yielded to the defeat of the Dyer Bill, and in doing so, yielded to the destruction of the great principles of democracy, so plainly set forth in the Constitution of the United States. The minority sets forth its contention as a protection of its state rights. But, this could hardly be justified in the face of the facts that the states have shown their utter inability to put a stop to mob violence. We have and still contend that whenever the states fail in any particular, it is the duty of the national government to come to the rescue with a remedy, for, the states are a part and parcel of the nation, and it is upon them that the nation is constructed. The nation can never be any stronger than the states, and can only propagate the principles of democracy is so far as those principles are propagated by the states.

We have contended all along that lynching was more of a lack of enforcement than of law, and that the execution of the law was based on the prevailing sentiment of the people. We still contend that the state is able to put a stop to lynching if it will, and it will only will it when the majority of the citizens of the commonwealth demand it.

Mob violence has no place in a regularly organized nation, and if allowed to run its course will soon destroy every principle of the democracy that we boast of. It will overthrow the powers of law and order and set back civilization of which we boast a thousand years.

SOUTH GEORGIA WOMEN HIT

Atlanta Georgian
2-7-23

AT MOBS

Atlanta Georgian

Convention of Methodist Missionary Society Calls for Enforcement of Law.

COLUMBUS, Ga., Feb. 6.—A resolution deploring the growing disregard for law and the frequency of instances of mob violence and pledging its support to "the fearless and impartial administration of justice" was adopted by the Woman's Missionary Society of South Georgia M. E. Church, South, at the close of its session Tuesday, following an address by Miss Loula E. Glass on "The Dyer Bill and the Responsibility of the South."

With a little less than 200 visiting delegates in attendance, and with others arriving on every train, the twelfth annual convention of the society Tuesday morning began its first real session, after the opening service Monday night at St. Lukes Church. A large attendance, highly satisfactory reports by the officers and live interest on the part of the members have already made the success of the convention certain, but the remainder of the sessions will be fraught with a note of sadness, due to the enforced departure of Mrs. G. W. Matthews, president of the society. This is the first convention of the society that Mrs. Matthews has not attended throughout. The president explained that her daughter is convalescing from typhoid fever and that it is imperative that she return to the bedside of the patient. Mrs. Matthews will not be in position to accept the presidency of the organization another year, she stated.

LAWLESS AMERICA AT WORK

Those who have read the interesting stories of the horrors white people committed upon each other, some of whom are now on trial for their lives, in a condition of Invisible Empire rule in Moorehouse Parish, Louisiana, will be surprised that white folks could be so cruel to each other. Two victims, it has been shown in court, were whipped unmercifully and their limbs torn from their bodies, and the carcasses tied to weights and sunk in Lake Fourche. It is a gruesome bunch of stories about the outrages white folks have perpetrated upon each other, with in-

visible terror enveloping the communities like deadly miasmatic vapors. We have to go back to the Protestant Reformation for a parallel for such doings.

And then, down in Levy County, Florida, a body of white citizens, seeking for a convict charged with attempting an assault on a white woman, lynched three Negro men and two women, two white men being killed in the mix-up, and burned up the Negro town of Rosewood with the church, none of the persons done to death being in any way whatever connected with the alleged assault. One report had it that 22 people were killed, but the news from the seat of trouble, after the second day, was suddenly suppressed, so that nothing has leaked out as to how the trouble terminated.

And, then, down at Raleigh, N. C., M. M. Moore, a white farmer, has just been sentenced to a year at "rock breaking on the road." It appears that several days before the conviction Farmer J. L. Faircloth one night opened his door to be confronted by a hooded Klansman, whose voice he recognized as that of his neighbor Moore, who ordered him to follow him. Instead of obeying orders Mr. Faircloth drew his pistol and held Farmer Moore as his prisoner. Now he will have to pay for it by breaking rock on the road for a whole year.

Why should such things as we have here noted be in our great country? Why should there be an undercurrent of hate and lawless disregard for the rights of our neighbor? None of the troubles reported in our statement of the case could have happened if those concerned as avengers had left the whole business to the due processes of law and lawful authority, without which there can be no security for life and property, or for the future of our Republic.

U. S. MOBS KILL 83 WOMEN IN 34 YEARS

Atlanta Georgian 2-7-23

(By International News Service.)

WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 6.—An alarming number of women have been killed by mobs in the United States in recent years, the Federal Council of Churches declared in a statement Tuesday.

"Since 1889," the counsil said, "there have been 83 women killed by mobs. Some of them were put to death with savage tortures, such as burning and disembowling."

Such brutality, the council declared, might be expected in "pagan times or heathen countries, but by no means in a civilized land today."

"The total number of persons lynched by years gives a startling picture of lawlessness," the council said. "There was a slow decrease from the climax in 1892 and 93 down to 1908. During the latter year and 1909 there was an increase, then another slow decrease until 1918, when a tendency to increase was again manifested."

Only four states have never had a lynching, according to the council—Massachusetts, Rhode Island, New Hampshire and Vermont. Three states have had no lynchings since 1889—New Jersey, Utah and Connecticut.

"Nine other states," the council said, "have had a clear record during the last 10 years. They are Nevada, Colorado, Minnesota, Iowa, Wisconsin, Michigan, Indiana, Delaware and Pennsylvania.

"This means that only 33 per cent of the states have not had a lynching in the last 10 years."

ANTI-LYNCHING SENTIMENT GAINING.

Presbyterian 1.11.23—Advance

That there has been a surprising increase of anti-lynching sentiment in Georgia recently and a growing determination on the part of Georgia people that the sanctity of the law must be upheld, was clearly indicated in reports made to the Georgia Committee on Race Relations in its recent semi-annual meeting.

It was pointed out that during the present year twenty-two indictments have been returned against alleged lynchers and four convictions secured, carrying penitentiary sentences. Fifteen of these cases are still to be tried, most of them on the charge of murder, besides a number of damage suits growing out of injuries and losses inflicted by mobs. In one lynching case both the deputy sheriff and the chief of police are under indictment.

The significance of these facts was emphasized by the statement that in the 37 years ending with 1921 there had been 430 lynchings in Georgia and that record of only one indictment in all that time had been found.

The need of an effective anti-lynching law in the state was stressed and the responsibility for drafting and getting such a bill before the next legislature was delegated to a committee of eminent jurists headed by Judge Samuel B. Adams, of Savannah.

LYNCHING CONDEMNED BY TEXAS WOMEN.

Committee Organized to Promote Christian Principles in Race Relations.

11/3/23 National Baptist

Dallas, Tex.—Declaring that "lynching is the black spot on America's soul," that "we have no security unless the law protects us", and that "law and order must be maintained at all costs" leading women from all parts of Texas met in Dallas a few days ago and organized for the purpose of seeking a Christian solution of the tangled problems of race relations. Mrs. Jessie Daniel Ames of Georgetown, was elected Chairman and Mrs. John S. Turner, of Dallas, secretary. The membership of the committee embraces representatives of the principal civic and religious organizations of the State, Mrs. Percy V. Pennybacker being a notable figure in the group.

A strong address was drafted and given to the public, recognizing the condition of the Negro in the South as a community problem affecting the welfare of both races and demanding for its solution the application of the principles of humanity and justice. An appeal was made for the rights of every child to a reasonable chance of life and for a single standard of morality that will protect the womanhood of all races.

The women's' committee will function as a section of the Texas Committee on Interracial Cooperation, the purpose of which is to organize in every community where race relations constitute a serious problem a group of the best people to study local conditions and needs and deal with them intelligently and in a Christian spirit. Dr. J. C. Hardy is chairman of the State Committee. It was stated that in many communities the plan had averted threatened trouble and displaced acute situations by confidence and good will.

The address adopted by the women follows in full:

"We, the members of the women's section of the Texas State Committee on Interracial Cooperation, find ourselves overwhelmed with the opportunity and the corresponding responsibility which we this day face in sharing the task of bringing about better conditions and relations in the South between the white and the Negro races. * * * * We deplore the fact that the relations for the past fifty years have been such as to separate the two races through a lack of understanding on the part of both. We know that ignorance takes its toll in crime and inefficiency, that disease and death are no respecters of persons, but that they sweep across the boulevards from the places of squalor and unsanitary living, to the best kept and most protected homes. We know also that crime is not segregated and that its results are felt alike by all classes.

"We are persuaded that our native Southland can never reach its highest destiny while any part of its people are ignorant, underfed and inefficient. Therefore, together we must meet our task and seek to bring in a new day of better understanding. To this end we call attention to some of the underlying causes of present day ills:

Prejudice.—"Recognising the universal existence of prejudice among people of different races, and deploring its existence and its consequent unjust results, we therefore are resolved that the Negro should have a hearing in his own behalf, and further resolve that we shall not be content simply with being kindly disposed to the race, but that our good will shall reach to the effort to secure for its members justice in all things and opportunities for living the best life. We desire for the Negro, as for all men, personal and racial justice in private life and in the courts of the land.

Womanhood.—"Realizing the great increase of mulattoes and knowing full well that no race can rise above its womanhood, we appeal for the protection of the chastity of the Negro woman and declare ourselves for the single standard of morality among this race as well as among our own.

Childhood.— "Recognizing the right of every American child to be not only well born, but to be given the opportunity for developing his life to its fullest possibility, we desire for the Negro child better homes, better schools and better Christian training.

Lynching.—"Lynching is the black spot on America's soul. So long as America holds the record for its illegal taking of life, so long as the headlines of foreign papers carry in large letters 'America Burns Another Negro' just so long will her shame be world-wide. We have no security unless the law protects us. Mob violence knows no law. As women, as mothers of men, we protest. We condemn every violation of law in the taking of life, no matter what the crime.

"We declare ourselves for law and order at all costs. The public has a right to prompt and certain justice and should demand such of officials and courts. We believe that America should not permit ignorance and prejudice to be capitalized. In common with the great and honored Henry W. Grady, of our own Southland, we say, 'Not in passion, my countrymen, but in reason, not in narrowness but in breadth, may we solve this problem in calmness and in truth, and lifting its shadows, let perpetual sunshine pour down on two races walking together in peace and contentment.'"

THE LYNCHING CURSE OF AMERICA IS TO GO

The Women's Missionary Council of the Methodist Church (white) assembled in Mobile, Alabama, adopted constructive and vigorous resolutions against mob violence. Mob law was born for the purpose of rendering personal vengeance and satisfying individual passion which might not be done in a regular court of law or trial. It has gained such proportion throughout the South that leaders in the white race have approached it with fear and trembling, and until recently there has been but little substantial expression against it. Now that the christian women of the white race are expressing themselves in public meetings, in private and in the press of the country there is reason to believe that some substantial action and consideration will be given.

However vicious and ungodly one might be, he cannot endorse lynching and remain in the columns of decent humanity or be comfortable in civilized society. They give various expressions for burning, hanging and torturing Negroes, but when it comes to the true analysis of this savagery it is practiced upon the Negro because he is almost powerless to defend, and public sentiment is in favor of white domination whether that domination be to kill Negroes lawfully or otherwise, and together with the deep-seated prejudice and hell-bent notions to not disturb white men for their practices against black people, the evil has continued. It may be that since the white women representing the missionary spirit have asked for a halt in this program, that some good results will come and we will see our nation clean and operating on a respectable basis and all of its citizens or subjects governed and protected within the law of our county. It might be that our efforts to banish this evil have been misdirected and the tender hand and cultured hearts of the women people of America have not been sufficiently depended upon to help in the program.

Let the christian people of America continue in prayer until other great lights begin to shine on this evil that the exposure will be so pronounced until our government will feel free to call a substantial halt—the public mind intensely fixed and determined. Say what we will, there can be no greater abuse practiced upon humanity than the savage spirit of lynching human beings, burning them at stake, taking life without law or authority and on the most frivolous charge.

COLLIER'S WEEKLY DEMANDS FEDERAL ANTI-LYNCH LAW

Special to Mobile Forum

Collier's National Weekly (416 West 13th. Street, New York) demands enactment of a federal law to prevent lynching, in the issue of February 17, according to a reprint sent out by the press service of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. The editorial in full is as follows:

2-23-23

The Nation Must Punish Lynchers

When the miners tried for the murder at Herrin were acquitted the other day, their lawyer commented that the mine guards had terrorized the community and the strikers rose in righteous wrath. gave the blanket excuse that is given for every mob taht kills. Murder under any name done for any excuse, is the same. Murder is murder regardless of who the murderers are and of who their victims are. This means mobs as much as individuals.

A mob in Harrison, Ark., kills a railroad striker. That is murder, thouggh the killers think themselves public-spirited vigilantes. A mob in Louisiana tortures two men in a cotton press and kills them. That is murder, though the murderers wear silly regalia and call themselves high-spirited patriots and Heaven knows what else.

Our commonest type of mob murder is called lynching. But Harrison, Mer Rouge, Herrin, the burninggs of Negroes at the stake, are all off the same piece. Call them murders and have done with it.

It is almost a foregone conclusion that members of a murdering mob in a small community will be acquitted as were the Herrin miners. The defendants have much local sympathy. A jury that would convict can scarely be had. A local prosecutor who will do his duty whole-heartedly must be one of singular courage and integrity.

If we hope to stop mob murders and punish the murderers, we shall have to act as a nation. There will have to be a Federal law, so drawn as to cover mob murders of all types, and to provide that cases resulting shall be for Federal prosecution in Federal courts

THE MOB LAW AND ITS HISTORY

The Birmingham Reporter.

Mob violence is now directed chiefly against white persons, even women, as contrasted with the previous record chiefly against colored, according to a report just issued by the American Civil Liberties Union, which points out that in the 103 cases of lynching, tarring and feathering or flogging in the last six months of 1922, "over two-thirds of the victims were white men and women." Among the 32 Negroes in the record, 20 were lynched. "When a mob goes after a Negro, in most cases," the report states, "it does not stop short of death." 2/5/23

Presenting the striking facts of mob violence in the United States, the Civil Liberties report notes "a marked increase in the number of cases," and claims that "the violence is in most cases the result of an organized campaign of terrorism and lawless assumption of power by private organizations, notably the Ku Klux Klan."

Stating that "Texas leads all the other states in floggings, and tarrings and featherings," the Civil Liberties report claims that the increase in mob violence "is the product of the class feeling and prejudice aroused by the war. The dominant group behind organized violence is that of 'white, Protestant and Gentile southerners, centering in the Ku Klux Klan with the object of class supremacy, private vengeance, and fantastic notions of enforcing the 'moral code'."

While most of the mob violence in the last two years took place in the south and southwest, "there were scattered cases throughout the west, and a few cases in the east," the report states.

The record totals nearly 800 victims at the lowest count, not including riot victims, thus averaging over one person a day. Of these, 102 persons were lynched, 33 whites and 69 Negroes; 63 persons were tarred and feathered, 61 whites and only two Negroes; 167 persons were flogged, 126 whites and 41 Negroes; and about 460 persons, chiefly aliens and I. W. W.'s were deported from local communities by mobs. Commenting on this total, the Civil Liberties report states that "the killings by mobs in fact total more than 102, if account is taken of the election riots in Florida, where 30 to 60 Negroes lost their lives, and of race rioting in Tulsa, Oklahoma, where 30 were killed."

Twenty-five years ago William H. Councill, then President of the A. and M. College, Huntsville, Alabama, speaking to a very intellectual audience of colored and white people attacked the lynch law and mob savagery. He told the people at that time that mob law would eventually gather such proportion in America that white men and white women would be lynched and burned at the stake as they were then lynching and burning Negro men and women. He pleaded most earnestly with white authority in defense of the laws of the country which they made and were administering. It is now and has long since been true that the vision of this seer was correct and the mob is so bent on satisfying its lust and passion for blood they not only lynch white men, but it is true that they sometimes lynch white women.

The American Civil Liberties Union has made a most complete study of the mob spirit and has given a convincing discussion of the evil and those interested in good government, life and property can but be convinced that if we go on in this savage manner we prove our inability for self-government and destroy all of what we are willing to call and boast of as superior ability over other races, countries and groups of people. The law-makers and administrators in this country are solely responsible.

AMERICA RIDICULED BY RUSSIAN PAPERS FOR BARBARIC LYNCHINGS

(N. A. A. C. P. Press Service)

In an interesting article on how the Russian people regard America, which appears in The New Republic of September 19th, Arthur Ruhl, famous author and newspaper correspondent, tells of the effect upon the Russian people of news regard-

The Mobile Forum

ing lynchings and mob violence in the United States. Mr. Ruhl is now in Russia and in his article in The New Republic headed, "What the Russians Think of Us" has this to say:

"——A Moscow comic paper last summer published on its front page a cartoon consisting of two pictures in parallel columns. One, representing a group of African cannibals seated around a fire waiting for a helmeted white man to be roasted, was labelled 'In Barbarous Africa,' The other, representing a Negro burning at the stake, surrounded by a mob of gleeful whites, was labelled 'In Cultured America'. This aspect of our civilization, which puzzles nearly all Europeans, is an easy target for satire and every once in so often comes a cartoon of this sort or an editorial on The Brute with a Veneor of Civilization....."

THE SPIRIT OF THE MOB IN THE LIFE OF CHILDREN

We could believe that in a few generations the mob spirit and lynch law would pass into history, and that constituted authority would rule the government, if it were not for the fact that children take on largely the habits of their parents. The unfortunate side of this tendency is that the child is more likely to adhere to the weaknesses of the parent.

A mother cannot conceive from a father who is charged and surcharged with the mob spirit and continue in labor with that child under the evil effects of these discussions and the excitement of such incidents, without bringing into the world a child with a mind, heart and attitude of that character. This we call inborn principles, and whatever the training might be it is hard to take out of a human being what nature has placed there. The child, therefore, comes into the world a criminal and made so by the parents before it was born.

A few days ago a dispatch was sent from New Orleans, La., and published in many of our daily papers, some of the papers giving big headlines in an apparent gloating manner, emphasizing the act of a boy who had the mob spirit. Evidently showing the habits of his dad, with no thought of the amount of crime being committed or that any crime was being committed, the boy dressed himself in Ku Klux fashion and put on one of the old time tar and feather parties. The story from the newspapers makes this statement:

New Orleans, June 7,—Henry Bayer, a small boy of McDonoughville, a suburb, is in the toils of the law because while at play a few days ago, he donned a pillow slip, held a parade, and then staged a tar and feathey party all by himself. Young Bayer, in search of a victim for mob vengeance, hit upon Joseph Crampes, barely two years old, and when the "mob" had finished with the alleged evil-doer, little Joe was a mass of tar from head to foot. Henry then "disbanded" and melted away.

When Joseph's mother found him, he was a glossy black, for he had been given a bath in a pot of tar. All of her efforts to remove the coat failed and then the child became ill. Mrs. Crampes today filed a charge of malicious mischief against Henry and the "one-boy mob" was ordered to appear in court Saturday.

Our troubles may not be so grave in the present generation or in the criminal associations and organizations, for these may be stopped by lawful procedure, and will be stopped when our courts are brave enough and judicious enough to attack the criminals regardless of their place, name and number. Our danger lies in the new crop of criminals that are coming on, born of our healthy and good mothers. The present generation will die out by common consent and in due course of time. We ought to teach the children and make them fit subjects for citizenship, manhood and womanhood. All of us may learn a lesson from the Louisiana chap. He may feel to follow this course and every little boy that he has influence upon may be guided by his spirit. It is unfortunate for him, it is unfortunate for the nation that these inborn criminal tendencies must continue through unnecessary and vicious organizations.

Lynchings—1923.
Discussions.

Negro Press. (Arkansas)

1319

IS LYNCHING THE RESULT OF CRIME OR PREJUDICE

Moses Fowler

The brutal slaying of two officers of the law the other day by murderous bandits is a very sad reflection for the law abiding citizens of Little Rock. Detectives Moore and Hay were shot down by bandts Lang and Shaw, these officers were brave and respected men of the city, with families and dependents; were shot down and killed in broad daylight; the latest report is that some of the best lawyers in the city have been engaged to defend them they are therefore to be accorded afair trial; it is already hinted that they through their attorneys may seek a change of venue, thus assuring every possible guarantee to a fair and impartial trial before the courts of our land.

7-28-23

Little Rock, Ark.

It appears that if any crime deserves summary treatment, if any act is capable of arousing men to great heat of passion, the slaying of officers Hay and Moore, the widowhood of their wives, the orphanage of a number of helpless and innocent children should be sufficient to cause that passion, but low and behold, they are to have human treatment and a chance to prove self defense. If Lang and Shaw had been Negroes a 1000 to 1 they would have been summarily handled—the cause would have been so agrivating and exasperating until the public temper would have revolved and not only the criminal dealt with but other innocent persons made to suffer. Why this difference? It is clear that crime is the thing to be avenged; criminals should be the object of an avenging populace. The fact seems to be that the color of the crimminal is the turning point. Thus it appears that prejudice is more powerful than crime itself. The fact of the whole matter is as a law abiding community Little Rock has done herself proudly in permitting even the man or men who seem unworthy of a place in our civilized life a fair and impartial opportunity to prove his side of the case The government and citizenship whose moving power is based on right and justice rather than prejudice will always serve a m[illegible]t useful place in the society of the world. There seems to be no crime so horrible with a public system of government that could not be tolerated long enough to hear both sides impartially of the controversy

Lynchings—1923
Discussions.

Negro Press. (D.C.)

1320

GEORGIA AND OKLAHOMA.

The Washington Eagle 8-25-23

If the thinking people of the world ever doubted the real cause of most of the trouble over the race problem in Georgia and in Oklahoma, that doubt has been removed. Ignorant despotism and disregard for law have shown themselves in such bright glare in both of the states, that it is clear that the citicenry is wrong at heart.

It does appear that the records might show Oklahoma to have been peopled by migrants from Georgia, so much alike are they. Both states have every reason to move forward towards prosperity, yet the worse element, the vicious minority, keeps them in turmoil and disgrace. Washington, D.C.

More large cities, more schools and new blood are needed to civilize them.

Lynchings—1923
Discussion

Negro Press, (Georgia)

1321

OFFICER VIEWS LYNCHING

Natl. Guard Commander In Crowd

New York. N. Y., May 11—Reports from Columbia, Missouri, where an unmasked mob lynched James T. Scott, colored janitor of the University of Missouri on April 29, state that the lynching was watched by one of the Commanders of the National Guard Unit which the Governor had ordered to prevent the occurrence.

These reports are brought to the attention of Governor Arthur M. Hyde, and he is asked to fix the responsibility for the failure to prevent the lynching in a telegraphic letter sent by James Weldon Johnson, Secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

"May 7, 1923

"Honorable Arthur M. Hyde,
Governor of Missouri,
Jefferson, Mo.
"My dear Mr. Governor

"I beg to acknowledge with thanks a letter from your secretary, assuring us that every possible step will be taken to punish those guilty of the public murder of James T. Scott, in Columbia, Mo.

"Is any step being taken to fix the responsibility for the failure of the National Guard Unit, which you ordered to take action to prevent that lynching? From an eye witness, who was a lieutenant in the United States Army overseas, we have a report that the Commander of that Unit of the National Guard, Colonel Williams, was a spectator of the breaking into the jail, and of the lynching of Scott. Our report further states upon hearsay evidence only, that members of Battery D of the 128th Field Artillery Missouri National Guard, were among the spectators of the mob.

"The inaction of your National Guard officers, together with the inaction of the sheriff, Chief of Police, the Deputy Jailer, and the prosecuting attorney, all of whom knew the lynching was in progress, and who by concerted action, could have stopped that lynching, seems to us to constitute one of the grossets examples of neglect of duty and cowardice ever laid at the door of Americans.

"We shall be glad to hear, and to inform the press and our membership of any action which is taken against those individuals."

SOUTH BECOMING TIRED OF THE LYNCHING EVIL

Montgomery, Ala., April 25 (By The Associated Negro Press.)—That sentiment in the South is growing against lynching, is manifested by the code which has just been recommended of Alabama, which states among other things, "Any number of persons assembled for any unlawful purpose and intending to injure any person by violence and without authority law shall be regarded as a mob, and any act of violence exercised by such mob upon the body of any person shall, when such act results in the death of the injured person, constitute the crime of lynching; and any person who participates in or actively aids or abets such lynching shall, on conviction ,suffer death or be imprisoned in the penetentiary for life." J. J. Mayfield, Code Commissioner of Alabama ,informs The Associated Negro Press that "The Constitution of Alabama provided that if any sheriff allows any prisoner to be taken from his custody or the jail in consequence of his fault or neglect, it shall be the ground of impeachment of such sheriff and that he shall be impeached before the Supreme Court of the State without the right of jury trial."

UNITARIANS CONDEMN MOB

Make Appeal For Harmonious Relations

New Haven, Conn., Sept. 21—The General Unitarian Conference of the United States and Canada holding its sessions at Yale University, has just closed its 80th Biennial Conference with the reelection of Chief Justice William Howard Taft as its President, and with the passage of a ringing resolution in condemnation of mob violence against human beings of whatever race, creed or color.

While this resolution makes no specific mention of the Ku Klux Klan, it was clear to all that the Conference had this organization in mind when discussing and adopting it. The delegates who spoke on the resolution were emphatic in their assertions that the Unitarian fellowship in the light of its broad humanitarianism must "put on record its unqualified condemnation" of the evils of intolerance and race hatred under whatever form or disguise they seek to parade themselves.

They also pointed out that upon the harmonious adjustment of race relations between diverse races, creeds and nationalities, rest the permanence of our democratic institutions and the peace of the world. The resolution was adopted without dissent and reads as follows:

Whereas, The harmonious adjustment of relations between the people of diverse races, creeds and nationalities living in this country is essential for the permanence of our democratic institutions and the preservation of peace in the world, Be it

Resolved, That this Conference puts on record its unqualified condemnation of that evil spirit of intolerance, bigotry and hate which manifests itself in acts of violence and persecution designed to intimidate or to deprive of their legal rights any of our fellow human beings, of whatever race, color, or creed. We commend to our churches participation in those interracial committees which are seeing that better mutual understanding which is the only way out of the clash of diverse races and conflicting interests.

Migration and Peonage May Stop Lynching Says Boston Paper

Washington, D. C., June 23.—Boston's leading newspaper thinks the present Negro migration movement may put an end to lynching and peonage crimes against civilization.

"Will the pressure of economic need do more in putting an end to lynching in the southern states than has been accomplished by appeals based on moral and legal grounds? With the shortage of manual labor there has come renewed migration of Negroes to the manufacturing regions of the North. The departure of so many of the colored population is causing concern among southern planters and business men. They are confronted with the prospect of greatly curtailing their operations because of shortage of labor. The signing by Governor Pinchot of a bill making participation in a lynching party in Pennsylvania first degree murder, coming at this time is an element in the situation not to be an influence that will increase the migration and so add to the labor shortage in southern states

"Leaders of the Negroes are advising them to take advantage of their present opportunity to find employment in parts of the country where, they are told, they will escape the peculiar dangers to which they are subjected in the southern states. Thise attitude of the leaders of the race is frankly stated in a recent correspondence.

"Dr. Emmett J. Scott, Secretary-Treasurer of the Howard University, having appealed to Judge Elbert H. Gary to employ colored Americans in the works of the United States Steel Corporation, an official of one of the southern lumber producing companies protested, presumably on the ground that the Negroes were needed in the South.

"Replying to this protest, Dr, Scott said, 'I very definitely feel that it is the duty of colored people wherever opportunity offers to leave those sections where lynching and peonage are practiced upon them with impunity.' He added that he knew that black men were likely to meet with difficulties in some of the northern regions, but that these difficulties were inconsequental when compared with the privilege of a free and untrammeled citizenship, along with better housing, better educational opportunies for the children, better wages and better treatment.

"Such incidents may go far to put an end to the hangings, the shootings and the burnings of which colored people have been the most numerous if not the only victims. It is lawlessness of a kind rampant in the South, but, it must be confessed, not unknown in the North. The present migration of the Negroes may hasten the day when there will be more general recognition of the fact that lynching and peonage do not pay, whether the victims be white or black."
—Editorial, The Boston Transcript, May 23, 1923.

Lynchings—1923.
Discussions.

Negro Press, (Georgia)

1322

MOB LAW VS. ORDERLY GOVERNMENT

The Atlanta Independent

The Atlanta Constitution Tuesday morning gave the conclusion of the whole matter. This great journal put it up to the constituted authorities to tell to the world what Georgia is going to do about the reign of lawlessness and terrorism sweeping over our state; to tell the world whether three million law-abiding citizens are going to let approximately less than one hundred thousand lawbreakers destroy the reputation and good name of our state and advertise our commonwealth to the world as the home of mob law and terrorism, where neither life nor property is safe. 8-23-23

The answer that the great majority of us have been making, including the press, that the majority of the people of our state is law-abiding and disapproves of mob violence, and that the lawless element consists of a very small minority, will not longer answer the question, and the people outside of the state will not accept the answer as satisfactory. The world is not going to much longer judge us by the goodness of the silent majority, but by the crimes of the lawless and active minority. If the majority sits idly by and permit the lawless minority to live among them and commit all manner of crime at their doors daily, creating terror to the innocent and the law-abiding, and make no effort to bring the criminals to justice, then the majority, by its acquiescence and failure to act, becomes a party to crime, and the world will judge us, not by the good of the silent majority, but by the crimes of the hell-roaring minority. Atlanta, Ga.

The good people are just as much responsible for the reign of terrorism enveloping our state as the lynchers who terrorize, flog and murder innocent citizens. The spirit of mob violence which threatens our state, ad which is daily being pointed out by The Atlanta Constitution and other southern journals, is the natural result of the triumph of political demagogues and quackery in Georgia.

We have always adhered to the fundamental that crime begets crime, and if the law did not suppress the lynchings of Negroes it would not be long before white men would lynch white men. Sin begets sin, and the wages of sin is death. Man reaps what he sows. Neither crime nor criminals know any color. A white man is just as welcome in Hades as a black man. White men cannot mob and burn Negroes at the stake and escape the avenging penalty of their sins; for it is written, "Whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap."

Where are all the good people in Georgia when the few bad people are disgracing us all by committing all manner of crime and terrifying the citizens of the commonwealth? The question naturally arises, what is Georgia going to do about it? Will she surrender to the lynchers, mobocrats, night riders, firebugs, flogging gangs, or will the state rise up in the majesty of the law, through its constituted authority, and assert its sovereignty?

The law on the statute books is ample. We need no further law to suppress mob violence, punish floggers or to suppress terrorism or any other crime. We only need a set of men for officers who have enough guts in their bellies to enforce the law vigorously, firmly, promptly and imparitally. The law is all right, but the administration is all wrong. We want a set of men for officers who think more of their responsibility to law and order than they do to votes on election day. Georgia must be redeemed, but never will be so long as the state is dominated by cheap politicians, by men too ignorant to provide a system of revenue capable of taking care of the obligations of the state. No, the law will not be enforced nor terrorism suppressed, so long as we have judges who are ignorant enough to sentence a Negro to jail for contempt because he calls a Negro woman "Miss" in his court. What Georgia needs is men with backbone and conscience enough to enforce the statutes, and the good people come out of hiding, break their silence, suppress mob law and redeem the state from the ignomy that is now disgracing it before all the world.

We commend the editorial of The Constitution Tuesday morning to the law-abiding citizens of this state. It points out their duty plainly. They should be up and doing, and stop talking about a majority of us are law-abiding and the lawless constitutes a hopeless minority. The world is hearing from the minority, and not from the majority; and the only way the world will hear or listen to the majority will be for it to rise up in its righteous might and suppress the lawless minority, stamp out the flogging of free men, the lynching of good citizens and the terrorizing of communities by irresponsible cut-throats and outlaws. The minority in this instance is the majority, and under most any parliamentary practice the people who do not vote or speak out in open meeting are counted with those who do vote and speak out.

The mobs in Georgia is a challenge to the government. The gauntlet has been thrown down, and it is up to the constituted authorities, from the governor down, to enforce the law, to meet the challenge and redeem the state. The lynching of two men in Bibb county within a few months, and the lynching of two men in the state in one day, and the wholesale flogging and expelling from the community about Macon of law-abiding citizens, ought to be and must be suppressed, and it is time for the constituted authorities, through the governor, to take the initiative. It is clearly demonstrated in Bibb county that Sheriff Hicks is either incapable or unwilling to enforce the law and give the citizens the protection that the constitution imposes upon him to do. There is but one question to be asked, and that is, will the government surrender to the mob? And it follows, if the government does not suppress the mob, the mob will overthrow the government.

Today, in many parts of our state, the life nor property of either the white or black man is safe. The outbreaks of terrorism in Bibb county and other spots in Georgia are not outbreaks against Negroes or white men, but against the law, and is the effort of the mob to establish its superiority over the law; and unless the authorities act promptly and vigorously, the mob will overthrow the government.

Lynchings—1923
Discussions.

Negro Press (Georgia)

1318

WHERE IS THAT MAJORITY OF WHITES WHO OPPOSE TERRORISM AND LYNCHING?

My dear Mr. Davis:

Much has been said and written recently on the Negro exodus, the boll weevil, the irresponsible elements of whites that terrorize, intimidate and lynch the Negro and that overwhelming majority of good white folks that oppose terrorism, intimidation and lynching. Will you permit me to ask through the columns of your great outspoken paper where is that overwhelming majority found? It is permissible to say there are some that don't like for these bad things to happen for sentimental reasons, but I deny that they constitute the majority.

But that small irresponsible element as they are called need no introduction to the Negro. I have been reading the Atlanta Constitution more than twenty years and I am of the opinion that it has been very near correct in estimating the number of indignant citizens that composed the different mobs in almost every county in Georgia. Some counties reported 300 and some counties reported as high as 3,000. If that can be trusted against the number that vote in the white primaries according to county returns, the overwhelming majority will be reduced to a joke.

Quite recently very near Five Points (Atlanta) a Negro and a white man became engaged in a fist fight; in the twinkle of the eye some twenty white men were in the fight, some yelling "If you have any southern blood in you lynch that Nigger." Fortunately there was one white man passing that interceded for sake of sentiment and said, "It would be a shame to lynch the Negro." I hardly know what you could term him to be because he did not say it was wrong. However, he did have the Negro arrested. No doubt he was the majority. A few years ago I was working in a town and overheard the sheriff of the county tell another white man that he had been out after a Negro. He said, "The Negro's boss whipped him and he huffed up about it and I had to put him in jail." Shortly after that five Negroes were taken out of that very jail and lynched in one night. The point I am after is, where is that large crowd the Atlanta Contsitution continues to write about?

I remember when the State College of Agriculture's Demonstration train stopped over at Dawson, Georgia, in 1916. One speaker among them was telling the big farmers how to grow things with small cost and big money yield. He said, "Then when the boll weevil comes the Negro would not be needed." He then turned to the Negro audience and said, "Mr. Nigger, what is going to become of you?" His answer for the Negro was, "Mr. Nigger, you will have to evaporate." Bless your soul, Mr. Nigger started evaporating that very fall by the car loads.

I notice now there is a complete right about face on Negro evaporation. Bridges Smith in the Macon Telegraph said, "The tractor plow meant good-bye, Negro, bull yearling and mule."

Why send out press agents to juggle figures and leave the complexion unchanged? Again, I deny that the Negroes that have gone north are the agitating element only to the extent of outliving the most powerful chain of propaganda ever instituted against a race. 'Tis true, I have seen some boys from Georgia in Philadelphia and New York buy a Constitution and then laugh over what the paper was saying about them. It is a well-known fact that the editor of the Independent is called an agitator simply because he is always found in the thickest battling for Negro manhood, and so it is with every Negro. But political demagogues and the hostile southern press have proven to be genuine immigrant agents.

September 28th, 1918, I happened to be in New York when President Wilson spoke there in the interest of the fourth Liberty Loan and remember him saying, "Shall there be a common standard of right and privilege for all people and all nations or must the strong do as they will and the weak suffer without redress?"

I am hoping to remember that part of the president's speech to my last day. I shall forever think with regret that he was feeding pearls to swine when he said, "I cannot count them that lynch and by so doing undermine the very foundation of our government comrades."

S. S. MYERS.
14 Leach St., Atlanta, Ga.

LYNCHING AND HOW TO STOP IT

LA GRANGE GA REPORTER
FEBRUARY 20, 1923

At the last meeting of the Board of Managers of the Board of Temperance, Prohibition and Public Morals of the Methodist Episcopal Church, Rev. J. N. C. Coggin, D.D., Secretary for Colored work, offered the following resolution on lynching:

"We call earnestly upon the Methodist people throughout the length and breadth of the land to consider prayerfully and with a sense of duty the great problem of racial relations. Methodist ministers, both white and colored, should appeal to the Christian conscience of every community to stamp out the custom of lynching and to minimize those points of friction between the races which result in race warfare.

"Particularly urgent is the duty of the white people of the country to see that everyone charged with crime has a fair and open trial in efficient courts. It is a mistake to think that lynching is a necessity or that court action is not a sufficient deterrent to all forms of crime. Too long has this issue been the football of politics and the subject of sectional recrimination. The problem has become national in its scope. The white people of the country control the courts and make the laws and for them to go outside of the law in the handling of crimes is a degradation of themselves, an indictment of the governments which they have created, a humiliation to every state and a national scandal. Specific grievaces of either the white or colored people of various communities should be corrected by frank conferences and complete understanding. If the Christian conscience of the nation is aroused the racial problem will disappear without further legislation or agitation which is tinged with hostility.

"We commend the Inter-Racial Commissions which have done so much to promote good will and dissipate misunderstanding in various states and we recommend the extension of this policy of inter-racial discussio and understanding to wid spheres."

LYNCH LAW CAN BE SUPPRESSED.

The prevalency of lynch law in the United States is not because of the strength of the mob, but because of the weakness of those charged with the enforcement of the law. That mob law can be suppressed and lynching prevented by the strong arm of the law was demonstrated to a moral certainty in the attempt to lynch a Negro man in Chatham County jail a few days ago. The sheriff and the mayor being apprehensive of an outbreak of lawlessness on account of a Negro in their custody who was charged with assault upon a white woman, notified the governor of the circumstances and asking him for assistance. As promptly and as speedily as the law would permit, the governor got in touch with the authorities in Chatham County and took charge of the situation.

Georgia mobs heretofore, having found but little resistance on the part of the law, marched on to the county jail, hundrsds strong, with the intention of storming the jail taking the accused out and murdering him without ceremony. But, the mob in Savannah, reckoned without its host—they met a man who placed duty above life—Sheriff Dixon—he defied the mob and told them: "If you lynch this Negro tonight, you will do it over my dead body. I will exhaust every means at my command to protect the man in jail. You take your lives in your hands. 'I will shoot to kill."

The mob knew that those words were coming from a brave man—who had no thought of his life, but was completed wrapted in the supremacy of the law. The mob hesitated, then advanced, then retreated, and Gen. Travis kept recruiting his military forces until he had the mob completely in his hands, and drove them from the city.

The governor, the mayor, the sheriff and the military branch acted in conjunction—all firmly and unequivocally coordinating together, and the good name and reputation of Savannah was maintained and the State of Georgia, its brave governor, courageous military force, a brave sheriff and a never-flinching mayor saved the day, and demonstrated that mob law can be suppressed, if the men who are charged with the enforcement of the law, have guts enough in them to face danger and do their duty, though it imperils their lives. Mobs are made up of cowards, would-be assassins and murderers, who cannot stand the courage of a brave man nor the rigor of the law—they are ready to run the minute they see true courage in order to save their hides. On every occasion where the law was in the hands of men who put duty above their lives; mobs have been suppressed and lynching prevented. Mob law can be suppressed when the enforcement of the law is in the hands of men of the character and courage of Governor Hardwick, Mayor Seabrook, General Travis and Sheriff Dixon.

"SOUTHERN FAIRNESS."

(From the Providence, R. I., Tribune.)

Chivalry, hospitality, sportsmanship and fair play have been boasted attributes of the Southern gentry, and undoubtedly these qualities did exist before the Civil War had decimated the old-time Southern aristocracy. There are today some old Southern families living in seclusion who can truly claim the title of gentleman for their male members. But they apparently do not live in Columbus, Georgia; or at least they do not attend prize fights in that town.

Forcing Mike McTigue, a champion in his class into the prize ring with a broken hand at the threat of his life, intimidating a Northern referee who had decided the fight a draw to change his decision and render the verdict to the Southern

ring opponent by threatening him with mortal injury unless he did so; and frightening McTigue's manager almost to death by warning him that he would be hanged to a tree unless the fight went through as scheduled, are typical and expected examples of the sense of decency and fair play as understood by the section of the country which created the Ku-Klux Klan.

Securing a victory at the point of a pistol over unarmed and defenseless men is one way of winning; but it obviously is not the American way. The riotous scenes at the McTigue-Stribling fight are enough to make a civilized man indignant to the point of fury. But the tolerant civilized man expects such things from a section that will countenance and participate in lynchings, burnings at the stake, whippings and mobbings; and he understands that not much better can be forthcoming from people to whom civilization, fairness and tolerance are but dictionary terms. All we can hope is that some day they will see the light, desist from their primordial tactics and evolute into civilized human beings.

A SHERIFF'S DELINQUENCY.

The Cordele (Ga.) Dispatch.

We have no hesitancy in charging delinquency to the sheriff of Bibb County in permitting the lynching of the negro who was taken as a suspect—who remained a suspect—for the Houston County crime against a white woman of a month ago. Cumulative evidence forces this conclusion. If we had the power to "fire" a sheriff for permitting two lynchings, this sheriff would receive the first example of punishment for derilection of duty. We would write it into the statute books of the state that any sheriff permitting two lynchings was automatically barred from that office forever.

The sheriff of Bibb County failed in the Forsyth lynching—utterly failed in the performance of the very smallest duties belonging to that office. Yesterday every movement made by the men with their mob's victim was clearly a move for the purpose of lynching—at least for the advantage of the lynchers. The claims of a detective that he did not know this or that are not possible to believe. They are on their very face not so—not possible for normal minded people to accept.

This Negro was a charge of the sheriff of Bibb County. He need not make any claims to the contrary—his office puts him with honesty—with all sincerity and courage—into the business of keeping the peace of the state. To have permitted this latest mob victim in Bibb to have been taken directly into the hands of the slayers is too plainly the lending of a hand where mob violence is already making too many heroes of outlaws.

Taking a Negro for identification in such a manner for such a crime is too soft for us. Precaution of the right kind would never have stained that ride. Men who wanted to prevent a lynching—who wanted to save the state what happened yesterday while still this Negro was only a suspect—certainly would have made different plans—even though they required the victim to travel to Macon or some other point of safety for the alleged criminal. That lynching was planned before that Negro started on that ride. To get 300 people out of the rural sections on such short notice is impossible.

What the governor will do with that case is already settled. What the courts will do is likewise already determined. But somebody in Macon must assert himself. This lawless conduct can not go on. People in Bibb County know there are great dangers—fires that will not out themselves—in this unrestricted activity of the mob.

GOV. WALKER'S INAUGURAL ADDRESS BOMBASTIC AND ILLOGICAL

Nearly one-fourth of Governor Walker's inaugural address was devoted to lawlessness in Georgia, and "the undue and unfavorable notoriety given our state." He asserts thot Georgia, "in this respect has not had a square deal."

Governor Walker charges the correspondents of Northern newspapers, who are Southern men, with making "their stories unduly sensational in order to secure publication," and complains that "Many correspondents of these yellow journals are paid by the column."

After insulting the newspaper men of his own state and section, Governor Walker attempts to shift the burden to the Northern newspapers and insists that they ought to print the good things—"place the emphasis on the constructive forces at work and not destructive."

How Governor Walker, speaking in the native city of the infamous and cowardly Ku-Klux Klan, that head and front of lawlessness and menace to constituted authority—could have failed to speak out against the masked gang is more than we can understand; unless, of course, it is true that our new chief executive is not only a crony of Simmons and Evans—men who have called each other "grafter," "liar," "embezzler," and "blackmailer"—but is also a member of that infamous order.

It would have been more appropriate if instead of charging Southern newspaper men with distorting truth to get a few extra dollars, Governor Walker had asked how much per column are certain newspapers paid for their silence on the subject of the Klan. (And let us hasten to add that we do not believe any newspapers are paid to keep silent on the subject of the Klan.)

No, Governor Walker, silence remedies no condition. Your viewpoint is strangely superficial for one who is the chief executive of a great state. If you intend to cure all problems and rid the state of all its evils by a sh-sh! policy, you are headed for failure and you will drag the South's greatest state into the mire with you.

Let us have fewer platitudes fewer sonorous phases and fewer demagogic appeals filled with "glorious sire" stuff. Let us have less tear-shedding over the worn and tattered curtains of the state, more earnestness in the effort to strengthen its moral fabric.

Let us hear no more such bunk as your statement, "so long as state Legislatures nullify the constitution and defy the fundamental law of the land;" for you are quite aware that New York did not nullify the Eighteenth amendment.

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Negro Press, (Illinois.)

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TRUTH IS STRANGER THAN FICTION

UNDER THE CAPTION "Three Stories" the Cleveland News of recent date carries the following editorial, which is such a true pen picture of the law as it is worked out in the South and in the North that we take pleasure in printing it in its entirety, without further comment: 1-20-23

"NEWS FROM HATTIESBURG, MISS., told how a band of twenty-five masked men raided a passenger train and took from officers a prisoner en route to his trial on a murder charge. Next morning the prisoner's body was found hanging from a bridge. The prisoner was a Negro. The twenty-five members of the lynching party were described as wearing masks, but their color was not specified. The affair—only another instance of the mob law Southern Senators defend—was not to the credit of the white race as represented in Mississippi.

"ALONGSIDE the Hattiesburg dispatch chance put a little story from Akron. It was about a woman who quarreled with her husband and then went and jumped off a dock into Summit lake. A laborer working near by saw the attempt at suicide. Though lakes are not very inviting in January, he ran and jumped in after the peevish wife and succeeded in saving her life. The rescuer was named Roy Burton, Colored. We would say the instance was very much to the credit of one member of the Negro Race as found in Ohio.

"THE SAME DAY'S PAPER contained another item of interest, about a Cleveland man accused of housebreaking. The first time he was tried the jury disagreed. He was tried a second time and convicted. Then new evidence was brought forward tending to prove him innocent, and the plan was to give him a third trial. But Assistant Prosecutor Cassidy asked that the original charges be dropped, and that was done. For the new evidence showed that, while the man who did the housebreaking wore a mask over his face, his hands proved him to be a white man, whereas the man convicted was Colored. The business may not be particularly flattering to the jurors who agreed on conviction, or to the jury system of Ohio citizens or institutions generally, but it is at least a refreshing novelty. Can the reader recall any other instance in which a Negro's color helped him to gain justice at the hands of white men?"

Lynchings Stir Chesterton Ire; Scores America

London, England, March 16.—Gilbert M. Chesterton, internationally known English wit and novelist, who last year visited America, recently took a fling at some of the peculiarities of America in a speech before Britishers. 3-17-23

"I was given wine and cocktails," he declared, "in large quantities in nearly every private house I visited in the United States."

He referred to prohibition as "the curious colonial experiment across on the other side."

"We are asked," said he, "to follow with reverence America's example. They burn Negroes alive in the United States and, although I am not pharisaical about that, I do absolutely refuse to admit that a society in which a crowd of people meet together while a man in evening dress sets fire to a Negro and roasts hi malive, has a right to set themselves up as examples of morality to the world."

TEXAS COURTS

WE HAVE LEARNED to expect anything from Texas. Anything but justice. The courts reflect the attitude of the majority of the people, and the majority of the people are hostile to members of our group. An incident said to have recently occurred in one of the larger cities of that state will, perhaps, give the reader a faint idea of the way some of their courts mete out justice. A white woman was caught in a compromising position with a white man. The man was able to make his escape from the irate husband without being recognized. The innocent white wife, as is their wont, screamed that a black man had assaulted her. That was enough—some black man must pay the penalty. Chicago Defender

TO SHORTEN THE STORY—for they are all alike—she partially identified a young Colored man who was brought before her. He was slammed into jail. Although when brought before the judge reputable White and Colored men swore the defendant was in another part of the city when the deed was committed, the death sentence was passed. Later when positive proof of the white man's guilt was established it is reported his honor would not listen, saying, "Let the Nigger hang." 1-27-23

WITH MEN of this stamp on the bench dealing out the most cowardly and dastardly sort of justice, catering to the baser element of the population and arraying race against race, what can this state hope to develop other than a dominating bolshevistic lawless, murderous group that will later prey as much on their own flesh and blood as they now do on the black man?

SOUTHERN CHURCH GROUPS CONDEMN LYNCHERS' RULE

Baptists and Methodists Voice Feeling Against Whites Taking Law Into Own Hands

Atlanta, Ga., June 22.—Strong statements adopted by the Southern Baptist convention and the Southern Methodist board of missions are pointed out by the commission on interracial co-operation as further indication of the growing determination of the South to eradicate lynching and mob violence. The bodies represent [illegible] denominations in the South, with an aggregate membership of about 6,000,000. The Baptists in annual convention in Kansas City adopted the following:

"This convention has repeatedly gone on record as unalterably opposed to all forms of mob violence and mob rule. Perhaps the most vicious and the most alarming form of lawlessness in the present day is found in the activity and violence of mobs. We both pity and condemn bolshevism in Russia and rightly so, while we have occurrences in our own fair land which would chill our blood with horror if they happened in Russia or in any other land, however benighted or wanting in the essentials of orderly government.

White Race Suffers

"Mob violence defies all law, despises every principle and function of government and tramples into the dust every human right. Mob violence in the South, in its beginning, most often occurred against individuals of the Negro Race for attacks upon the sanctity of womanhood. Like all cancerous evils it has spread. It is now practiced for other offenses, against the white race as well as the Negro Race. But if the evil had remained or should be confined to the realm in which it began it is not to be tolerated by Christians or by other intelligent patriotic citizens.

"In the recent months mob violence has become more active and menacing perhaps more than at any time previous, certainly for years. As if to make their crime all the more cowardly and diabolical in many cases the mobs have concealed their identity and increased the difficulty of appherensing and punishing their members by wearing masks. It goes without saying that no true, intelligent, patriotic American can or will give support or approval to mob violence whether the mob be masked or unmasked, much less can our Baptist people and preachers think of so doing. We cannot but hope that all our pastors and churches will studiously refrain from giving approval or support to procedure that can possibly encourage disorder in any form."

Methodists Speak

The resolution of the Methodist mission board came up in connection with a recent lynching and was as follows:

"Resolved, That a message of commendation and approval be sent to Circuit Judge Walker for his fearless and righteous exposition of the law in his charge to the grand jury at Fayette, Mo., at the time of investigation of a recent act of mob violence committed at Columbia, Mo., and that

"We hereby register our sorrow over the crime of brutal murder by mobs so frequently occurring throughout our beloved land, not only because of the unrighteousness of such deeds and the defiance of the law, but also because of the reflection upon our Christianity in the eyes of pagan people."

SUPPRESS MOBS IS VOICE FROM WELFARE GROUP

Suppression of Lynching and Better Schools, Is Plea of the Committee

Chicago Defender 8-11-23

Atlanta, Ga., Aug. 10.—Immediate suppression of mob violence and lynching, more generous provision for education, and the employment of farm and home demonstration agents to teach the people how to make a living under boll weevil conditions, were the most important steps urged by the Georgia Race Relations committee, not only as matters of justice, but also as essential to stop the northward migration of our people. The committee, in session here a few days ago, called upon the authorities to do their utmost to put down mob violence, and all good citizens were urged to stand behind the officers and the courts in all efforts to this end. Attention was called also to the need of giving the governor authority to deal effectively with sheriffs, who are delinquent in their duties.

The legislature was asked to provide more generously for schools of higher grade and each county was urged to build at least one good school of this character. The committee called attention to the valuable work done by the new farm and home demonstration agents in the state, and the employment of such agents in every county was recommended as a means of teaching the people how to make a living under boll weevil conditions.

The committee asked the legislature to appropriate $15,000 for a training school for delinquent girls and also emphasized the need for a state tuberculosis sanitarium for our race. It was reported that the women's section of the committee had secured funds for the employment of a public health nurse to work throughout the state, organizing and training groups to look after maternal and infant welfare.

During the past two years the committee, through its secretary, Dr. T. J. Woofter, Jr., has directed its efforts largely to the suppression of mob violence, through public sentiment and court procedure. During that time the number of lynchings has greatly decreased, one only having occurred in the first half of 1923. A great deal has been done also in the way of supplying legal aid to helpless victims of mobs and other injustice. Many of Georgia's best people are active in the committee's membership.

WHITES MOBBING WHITES

The mob spirit has always been in Georgia [illegible] has been vented solely upon the defenseless Negro. More recently there has been a slight holding in check, as far as the public knows, but the spirit must go marching on, for that reason the mobsters are now mobbing their kind, and a happy time they are having in the empire state venting their spleen upon each other. May this be the cause of a turning point of the mob spirit, and these occurrences compel a healthy result [illegible] law and order, and a wholesome sentiment

Lynchings — 1923.
Discussion

Negro Press, (Indiana.)

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SOUTHERN EDUCATORS ASK GOVERNORS TO FIGHT LYNCHING.

The Freeman 2-24-23
Indianapolis Indiana

WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. — At a conference here last week of prominent educators from all sections of the South a memorial was prepared and signed by 87 of the leading educational figures of the South, making a public plea to Governors and Legislators, as well as to citizens, "to exert their influence constantly and actively in condemnation of the form of lynching," and to enact, if necessary, and "to enforce persistently such laws as will put a stop to this species of lawlessness."

Of the signers seven are State Superintendents of Education, seven are presidents of State Universities, 18 are presidents of State technical schools or Normal Colleges, 25 are presidents of privately endowed universities or colleges and 24 are college professors.

RUSSIAN PAPERS RIDICULE AMERICA FOR LYNCHING

The Freeman

(N. A. A. C. P. Press Service.)

In an interesting article on how the Russian people regard America which appears in The New Republic of September 19, Arthur Ruhl, famous author and newspaper correspondent, tells of the effect upon the Russian people of news regarding lynchings and mob violence in the United States. Mr. Ruhl is now in Russia and in his article in The New Republic headed, "What the Russians Think of Us," has this to say:

Indianapolis Ind.
12-22-23

"* * * A Moscow comic paper last summer published on its front page a cartoon consisting of two pictures in parallel columns. One representing a group of African cannibals seated around a fire waiting for a helmeted white man to be roasted, was labelled, 'In Barbarous Africa.' The other, representing a Negro burning at stake, surrounded by a mob of gleeful whites, was labelled 'In Cultured America.' This aspect of our civilization, which puzzles nearly all Europeans, is an easy target for satire and every once in so often comes a cartoon of this sort or an editorial on The Brute with a Veneer of Civilization * * *"

WRITES LETTER TO PAPER URGING BILL TO CURB MOB

The Freeman

Says Government Should Use Entire Army To Stop Violence

Indianapolis Ind.

FAVORS ENFORCEMENT OF EVERY LAW-GOOD or BAD

10-6-'23.

NEW YORK, Sept. 28.—Brice Collins, a Texas Democrat, has written to the Dallas News, urging enactment of the Dyer Anti-lynching bill to curb the mob in Texas, it was announced today by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, 69 Fifth ave. His letter follows:

"FOR DYER BILL UNLESS MOB ACTIVITY CHECKED

"In a recent issue of The News, W. E. Doyle of Teague, Tex., states that the 'Coolidge cohorts will reintroduce the iniquitous Dyer Bill with a view of making mob violence a crime against the Federal government,' that 'the new idea will deprive the State of fundamental rights,' and that the deprivation of these rights will result in a 'centralized government.' Granted, Mr. Doyle. Now, let us view the question from another angle. Every citizen of this Nation has been guaranteed certain 'fundamental,' inalienable rights, among which are the right to present a writ of habeas corpus when lawfully detained, the right to be tried in a duly constituted court when accused of crime, and the right to "life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness when unconvicted of crime in such a court.

"I insist that when either of these sacred 'fundamental' rights are in a large degree abrogated in a state; when men and women are killed, maimed, beaten or tarred and feathered by extra-legal groups or mobs, and the perpetrators of the crimes remain unwhipped of justice through the failure or fear of the state and local governmental authorities to intervene, then that State has no 'reserved rights' should feel bound to respect.

"I am a Texas-born Democrat, and do not think I ever had a relative who was not a Democrat or who ever lived in any other than a Southern state. A few years ago no one could have made me believe that the time would ever come when I would surrender my Jeffersonian ideas for the Hamiltonian principle of centralization, and even yet I have not crossed the Rubicon. But I had a thousand times rather live under a centralized government or autocracy than a moboracy or reign of minority terrorism. Lamar County, considering its large population, has been comparatively free from mob activity during the last two years, but in probably at least fifty Texas counties, wielders of the six-shooter, the wet rope and the tar bucket have perpetrated repeated atrocities without legal sanction.

"If the government authorities of a State will not or cannot uphold the Constitution and the Bill of Rights, then I, a Southern-born Democrat, am anxious for the passage of the Dyer bill, and hope that the Federal Government will utilize the whole United States army, if necessary, in enforcing it. I abide every law and favor the legal enforcement of every law, good or bad. Hence I see no Damoclean sword above my head."

Lynchings—1923.
Discussions.

Negro Press, (Kansas.).

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MISSOURI GOVERNOR DEPLORES LYNCHING

Is Plaindealer Editor That No Condemnatory Terms Are Too Strong For Lynchers

—:—:—

Topeka, Kansas, May 31, 1923

Governor Hyde,
Jefferson City, Mo.

Dear Governor:

We wish to call your attention to the outrage perpetrated upon the citizens of Missouri, when one, John T. Scott was lynched at Colubia, Mo., about April 14th. It is your Christian duty, as well as your sworn duty [illegible] had this man in custody at Columbia, should be dismissed from office. He is a coward, a murderer, one who has betrayed the confidence imposed upon him by the people of that county. It is a disgrace to have such a coward in office.

From the fact that this man was in custody over a week, and he must have known that the sentiment and feeling was in that community and what was going on all this time, it seems he was in sympathy with the mob and he must have in truth aided and abetted them. If not, he would have taken his prisoner away long before the time he was lynched.

The law of Kansas is when a sheriff allows a prisoner to be taken from him he resigns his office. Missouri does not have such a law, but it seems to me the attorney general would prefer charges against the sheriff for cowardice and refusing to perform his sworn duty and give proper attention to citizens and his prisoners of that county. We have not heard the final outcome of the Grand Jury but we have very little faith in what the court may do in this matter, as this being a Colored man, who belongs to a race where the white people have imposed upon them for the last three centuries, and they seem to think they have the constitutional right to abuse and do whatever is necessary to gratify their wishes, when it comes to outraging the Colored people.

All believers in the Christian re-

ligion and followers of the Savior, cannot afford to sympathize with this outrageous action of the sheriff and if he has a spark of manhood left, he would resign the office at once, hang his head in shame and go hang himself like Judas Iscariot. We address thisthis letter to you, not in malice but from the fact that we want to assist you in upholding the Constitution of the United States of the State of Missouri, and the teachings of the lowly Nazarene. There is no doubt in the minds of the general public that this poor man was innocent of that crime, or even a semblance of such. It looks as though some white man committed the offense and Scott was made the sufferer, as is usually the case.

Yours truly,
Nick Chiles,
Editor, Topeka Plaindealer,
President, Kansas Defense Society.

Jefferson City, Mo., June 6, 1923.

Mr. Nick Chiles,
The Topeka Plaindealer,
Topeka, Kansas.

Dear Mr. Chiles:

Your letter of the 31st at hand. You would have considerable difficulty in saying anything with reference to the outrage perpetrated in the lynching of a Negro at Columbia in which I would not concur.

Whenever you say it is my Christian and sworn duty to remove the Sheriffrom office, you are evidently not aware that no such power is vested in the Governor under the laws of Missouri. Nobody can remove either a Sheriff or a Prosecuting Attorney under the law of this state except upon a trial in court which is entirely within the hands of the officers of the county in which the outrage occurred. Such proceedings would be absolutely fruitless.

For your information the Grand Jury indicted some four or five people for participating in this outrage. What the final outcome of the trial will be, I am unable to say.

Cordially Yours,
A. M. Hyde

Lynchings—1923.
Discussions.

Negro Press, (Maryland).

1317

WHITE STUDENTS DISCUSS RACE QUESTION AT DENVER

Denver, Colorado, June 25.—Two hundred white students from Colorado, Kansas, Nebraska and Wyoming representing the membership of the Student Young Men's Christian Association assembled in their Annual Summer Conference at Estes Park, Colorado, and discussed for two days the race question in America. Colored speakers were Dr. J. H. P. Westbrook and Attorney S. E. Carey, both of Denver and Mr. W. C. Craver, representing the International Y. M. C. A. of New York City.

The conference passed a resolution urging Congress to pass a law against lynching.

POWER LYNCHINGS AND WHY.

The sociologists and economists and others with even more deeply furrowed brows are doubtless already engaged in evolving impressive explanations for the decided falling off in the number of lynchings in the United States. A drop from thirty lynchings for the first six months of 1923 is too significant to escape the profound thinkers.

A simple explanation is possible. It is as simple as recognizing the face that a live Negro is much more efficient as a cotton picker than one who has been burned atthe stake or riddled wit bullets. It seems reasonable to link the lessening popularity of lynching parties with the exodus of Negro labor from the South.

The sociologists and such may be able to think up a better explanation for the present tendency to let the Angel of Death shift for himself, but until they do we are satisfied to call it the conservation of natural resources.

Baltimore Evening Sun

CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH INDORSES DYER BILL

New York, Nov. 2.—The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, 69 Fifth avenue, has received copies of theresolutions adopted by the National Council of Congregational Churches in their sessions at Springfield, Mass., in which the Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill is indorsed and its pasage urged, and secret organizations fostering race and religious strife are denounced. The resolutions on the Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill and the Ku Klux Klan are as follows:

"The National Council views with much concern and disapproval the growth of organizations which, however sincere in their professions of patriotism, really foster social and religious suspicion, and give opportunity for lawlessness and brutality.

"We recommend to good citizens anywhere and especially to our own constituency to do all in their power to bring about the honest and energetic enforcement of the law by the constituted authorities, but to refuse ot join any secret organization that attempts to eexrcise the powers of government in the dark and to treat any such organization as a menace to the stability of the government as well as to individual rights, offensive to both religion and patriotism.

Lynching

"The National Council believing that the name of America is disgraced before high heaven by the barbarous practice of lynching and believing further that the governmnets of some States and local authorities have not only failed to stop lynching, but have notoriously failed to prosecute and punish lynchers, recommends to the United States Congress the enactment of the Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill, which would invoke the power of the Federal government to suppress the mob ,and directs that copies of this resolution be sent to both Houses of Congress and to the President of the United States."

The reslution endorsing the Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill, was introduced in the Conference at the request of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

SOUTHERN WOMEN BACK SEN. BRUCE

Afro-American

Women Pledge Themselves To Work for State Anti-Lynching Bill

8-17-23

Backing up the plea of Senator William Cabell Bruce for uniform State anti-lynching bills, the Women's General Committee on Inter-Racial Co-operation met at Ashville, N. C., recently. This committee, which is headed by Mrs. T. W. Beckett, white, of North Carolina, passed the following resolutions:

1. That we deplore the failure of State Governments to handle this—the most conspicuous enemy to justice and righteousness, and the most flagrant violation of the Constitution of our great nation.

2. That we definitely set ourselves to the task of creating such sentiment as is possible to us in each State of our territory to the end that not only sufficient laws shall be enacted to enable the trusted officers of the law to discharge their full duty, but to secure the enforcement of the laws now in existence.

NEW YORK, Aug.— A Supreme Court attachment for $283 was obtained yesterday by Nathaniel Winston, who says he paid $4 to bind an agreement to manage Buddy Jackson, Harlem heavyweight, for five years.

Winston says Jackson got $250 in a recent fight and is to get $600 as his share of the purse last night in his fight with Bill Tate at the Commonwealth Club. Winston said he had not received his manager's share of the $250 and had slight hopes of getting any of the $600.

L. C. DYER HITS A. C. MINISTERS

Afro-American

Failure of Single Pastor To Attend Anti-Lynch Meeting Cause of Wrath

8-24-23

'UNFIT' SAID CONGRESSMAN

Baltimore, Md.

Some Atlantic City Folk Say Missourian Was Too Fiery

By R. T. Lockett

Atlantic City, Aug. 23.—Quite a bit of discussion is being heard over the impression created by an address delivered by Congressman L. C. Dyer Wednesday night at the Waltz Dream in the interest of the Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill and especially that part of his speech where he severely criticised the local colored ministers in not interesting themselves in the fight for the passage of the bill to the extent of being present at the meeting.

There were expressions made to the reporter of this column yesterday to the effect that the speaker was absolutely right when he said that the colored preachers in Atlantic City "who are not in the front ranks of this great fight for right are not fit to occupy pulpits and preach righteousness to the people of their race."

There are others, however, who think the Congressman was a bit too harsh against the ministers, that in practically every church there was something going on and the preachers had their own programs to look after. The broadside was fired at the local clerical ranks because of the fact at what some considered an important meeting on one of the most vital issues with which the race has ever been faced, not a local minister was present. There were about five hundred people in the hall who listened to the fiery Congressman from Missouri.

The meeting was held under the auspices of the local branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and many prominent political leaders, white and colored, were on the platform and in the audience.

VIOLENT MOBS IN FIVE STATES STIR COOLIDGE

Afro-American

Ku Klux and Flogging Outbreaks Cause Executive To Consider Federal Anti-Mob Law

8-24-23

TWO LYNCHED IN GEORGIA

Baltimore, Md.

Martial Law Urged There; Uproar Also Continues In Ohio and Oklahoma

Washington, D. C., Aug. 23.—Continuing outbreaks of mob violence in five States caused the Coolidge administration to consider legislation making such offenses a crime against the Government.

There is the tenor of discussions which marked the President's day this week.

GEORGIA—Two colored men, Lee Green and Aaron Harris, hanged and riddled by mobs on trivial charges. Three Hudson brothers, white, arrested near Macon charged with flogging colored men. They are thought to be part of a gang terrorizing the country for the past six months. Martial law has been suggested to the Governor.

FLORIDA—Alleged Klansmen overpowered the jailer at Eau Gallie and released an alleged member of the Klan from jail.

TEXAS—Four State investigations are under way in the supposed effort to uncover who is responsible for the hundreds of floggings by masked gangs.

OHIO—A district gathering of 50,000 Klansmen near Steubenville, O., threatens to end in bloodshed and civil war.

OKLAHOMA—Since martial law has been proclaimed in Tulsa, there have been four more floggings by alleged Klansmen.

COOLIDGE INTERESTED

President Coolidge was reported deeply concerned by the apparent increased disregard for law and order. The President and other Government officials were said to be considering the advisability of enacting an anti-mob bill in the next Congress. The proposed legislation would apply not ony to lynch mobs, but to all organizations of masked men who take the law unto their own hands."

The Dyer bill, passed by the last House, but "talked to death" in the Senate by a Democratic filibuster, will be reintroduced in the next Congress, it was learned today. The Coolidge administration is expected to support this measure inasmuch as the executive was elected on a platform which pledged its enactment.

Federal authorities, however, hope to extend the Dyer bill to include all masked organizations attempting mob violence of any nature.

ANTI-WHIPPING LAW

A movement now under way would amend the bill to make any act of mob violence a Federal crime. Under this inventory would come the whippings, deportations and "tar and feather" outrages, frequently attributed to the Ku Klux Klan. Penal-

ties on a lesser scale than those applying to lynchings would be provided.

JOE PULLEN

Joe Pullen, of Drew, Mississippi, was killed in that unknown town or village on December 15th, after shooting twelve members of a mob who sought hs life. Baltimore

The trouble originated with a fight between him and his landlord who went to Pullen's house for the purpose of compelling him to pay a debt by force. Dervied

It is easy to imagine the landlord going to the humble cabn of his Negro tenant and arrogantly and brutally telling him what he had to do or the consequence he would suffer. Pullen, being a brave man, and being prepared for defence, was not to be bulldozed and no doubt stood his ground. Hot words brought on blows, it is certain, and the landlord made a show of deadlier effort. Pullen got there first and killed his man. After killing his landlord, he knew that whatever the circumstances death would be his portion and proceeded then to try to kill until he was killed.

Pullen's career of killing is one that should give pause to white mobs and courts which consider that a Negro's life is forfeited regardless of whether he killed n defence of his own lfe or his own home.

The Negro is fast deciding that if he is to die he might just as well die killing like a man as to be killed like a dog. 12— 26-23

When there are more Pullens there will be fewer mobs and fewer white men who will invite their own deaths by attempting the lives of Negroes secure in the belief that their color insures absolute safety from resentment and injury from Negroes.

Lynchings-1923
Discussion.

Negro Press, (Missouri).

1315

SHERIFF BROWN FAILED TO DO HIS DUTY

James Scott is dead. His life was taken at the hands of a blood thirsty mob made up of what is called "white supremacy." Scott was lynched because he was a Negro. His guilt or innocence was not taken into consideration. He might as well have said, "I am guilty," as to have said, "I am innocent." It's all the same to a mob. The St Louis Argus 5-25-23

The condition which made possible the lynching was the assurance given the leaders of the mob that they would not be molested in their undertaking by the officers of the law.

An eye witness says that the storming of the jail and the work of the mob reminded one of a working crew well directed, following a railroad wreck. St Louis, Mo.

There is no doubt, but that the lynching was a prearranged affair. The lynching was with the consent of Sheriff Brown. It was he into whose custody the prisoner was given. For two hours or more, he stood idly by and refused to use the power of his office in the defense of law and order. He admits that at no time did he fear for his own life. Yet the oath of his office binds him to protect the lives of those intrusted to his care even with his own. The law gives the Sheriff power to deputize any citizen or as many as he sees fit to restore or enforce law and order. Yet Sheriff Brown failed to do that much.

Pleading with a mob is but urging it on. Its either admitting that those who thus plead are cowards or that the appeal is a colossal joke.

A grand jury investigation is now being conducted. It looks as though several will be indicted. These are the proper steps to be taken at this stage of the game. The investigation should be thorough and firm without fear or favor. Therefore, we do not see how the investigation can be thorough without the jury making an honest-to-God inquiry of Sheriff Brown as to what he was doing during the two hours the mob was at work in breaking into the jail? Why he did not call the Governor? Why was it that he nor his deputies fired not a shot in defense of life and property?

Of course, Sheriff Brown like Pilate of old, who crucified Christ, will wash his hands and say, "I am innocent of this man's blood," yet he will be just as guilty as Pilate.

White Students Discuss Race Question At Denver

DENVER, Colorado, June 25.—Two hundred white students from Colorado, Kansas, New Mexico and Wyoming, representing the leadership of the Student Young Men's Christian Association assembled in their Annual Summer Conference at Estes Park, Colorado and discussed for two days the race question in America. Colored speakers were Dr. J. H. P. Westbrook and Attorney S. E. Carey, both of Denver and Mr. W. C. Craver, representing the International Y. M. C. A. of New York City.

The Conference passed a resolution urging Congress to pass a law against lynching.

WOMEN PLEDGE UTMOST EFFORTS IN ANTI-LYNCHING WAR

The St. Louis Clarion 8-24-23

Inter-Racial Commission Group Sets Out on Definite Crusade

Will Seek Co-operation of Organized Womanhood of Whole South

St Louis, Mo.

ATLANTA, Ga., Aug 20.—(Special) At the recent annual meeting of the Commission on Inter-Racial Co-operation, the woman's section of the Commission brought in a vigorous paper on lynching and asked the Commission to authorize that the matter be brought to the attention of the various women's organizaions of the South and that they all be asked to cooperate in a sustained and systematic effort to eradicate this great evil. The Commission, which has been constantly at work towards the same end, gladly give its approval to the plan by unanimously adopting the resolutions presented by the women, which were as follows:

WHEREAS,

Lynching, at one time practiced only as punishment by the mob for the violation of womanhood, is now resorted to even for robbery, petty crimes, or no crime, and

WHEREAS,

At present the responsibility for the punishment of lynchers and the abolition of the evil rests solely in the several State Governments, and

WHEREAS,

We, the Woman's Committee of the Commission on Inter-Racial Co-operation, are overwhelmed with deep sense of humiliation that this hideous crime is heralded abroad as the only means available to men for the protection of womanhood, and

WHEREAS,

We likewise suffer because of the seeming impotence of our State Governments in the protection of human life and in their inability to find and punish lynchers and members of mobs, who, in the absence of sufficient law enforcement by the regularly constituted authorities, presume to assume the role of Judge and jury—thus themselves becoming the greatest of law violators, therefore

BE IT RESOLVED,

1. That we deplore the failure of State Governments to handle this, the most conspicuous enemy to justice and righteousness, and the most flagrant violation of the Constitution of our great nation.

2. That we definitely set ourselves to the task of creating such sentiment as is possible to us in each State of our territory to the end that not only sufficient laws shall be enacted to enable the trusted officers of the law to discharge their full duty, but to secure the enforcement of the laws now in existence.

3. That the Director of Woman's Work of the Commission, Mrs. Luke Johnson, Palmer Building, Atlanta, Ga, be and is hereby instructed to secure the presentation of this resolution to all our co-operating organizations and State Committees, and further to put into effect such plans as are necessary to secure a sustained effort on the part of our women to the accomplishment of these ends.

Mrs. T. W. Bickett, chairman.
Miss Emma Whitfield, Sec'y Pro Tem.

Floggings Boost Anti-Lynch Bill

The Kansas City Star 8-20-23

Alarmed At Whippings, South's Pressure May Force Filibusters In Line, Is Belief Here

Kansas City, Mo.

The South is greatly alarmed over the whippings occurring there in the last several weeks, always clothed in mystery, both as to the motive and the identity of the whippers. Irate citizens in some cities have called aloud for legislation to put at an end these atrocities. In some instances officers of the law have been found to be implicated in the thrashings. This has led to a call from many for federal legislation. The Dyer anti-lynching bill is frequently mentioned.

"Sentiment Growing," Say Some.

That Southern sentiment is growing in favor of the Dyer bill or some federal legislation is the belief of many Kansas Citians, some of whom cited the fact that the Tulsa Tribune, never in favor of the Dyer bill, carried recently on its front page a three-column article appealing to the common sense of the mobs, and stating frankly that federal legislation would be the outgrowth if the whippings were continued. The "Public Expression" columns of Southern Dailies are filled with letters from irate readers who favor federal laws at once to curb this growing menace.

"This," said several Kansas Citians, "represents an about-face in the attitude of the South on the Dyer bill. The bill may be amended in order to get the Southern senators' vote, but the purpose will be accomplished nevertheless." The same opinion was voiced at the Y. M. C. A. by those interviewed there. At the Community Center, F. T. Lane, Executive Urban League Secretary, pointed out that "while these floggings will be persuasive in forcing Southern senators to vote for the measure, the greater persuasion will be brought to bear by the wholesale migration of Negroes Northward."

According to Mr. Lane migration has alarmed the South to the necessity of legislation protecting the Negro as has nothing else. "Masked bands and gangs are rapidly approaching their Waterloo also, because they have begun attacking not only white men, but white women as well," he said. "Pressure from public opinion," Mr. Lane thinks, "will compel the filibusters to line up in favor of federal legislation prohibiting mobs and masked bands in this country."

N. A. A. C. P. Head Pessimistic.

John L. Love, president of the local branch of the N. A. A. C. P. was less optimistic in his views on the subject. While it was his conviction that the Dyer anti-lynching bill will become a law at he next session of Congress, he things it will be in spite of, not because of, the vote of Southern senators. "Public sentiment in the South counts for nothing," said Mr. Love. "Southern senators will never be won to our side of this question. They realize all too clearly that their political life depends on their ability to keep away from the polls the great body of Negroes now residing in the South, whose vote could determine any election. Unlike senators from Northern states, the Southern senator is amenable to no one. He votes very much as he pleases; he knows his political future is imperiled the moment he undertakes to guarantee to Negroes the right to vote, and no amount of public sentiment, especially from the South, can alter his position." To prove his assertion that Negroes are denied the ballot in the South, Mr. Love pointed out that the combined votes cast for senators in practically all the Southern states were less than what is required to elect a senator from a single Northern state.

While even the most hopeful advocates of the Dyer measure expect it to become a law at the next session of Congress they were united in the belief that amendments which all but nullify will be added to the measure.

INDUSTRIAL NEEDS MAY GET JUSTICE FOR NEGRO.

The Negro has not been able to secure justice in the South. Political efforts in his behalf have not been very successful. First he was liberated from slavery but economically still remained a slave. Then he was given the franchise but has never been permitted to exercise the right. When white men set upon him and lynched him for suspected crimes without giving him a fair trial such as every citizen is entitled to, the Negroes' appeal for justice was unanswered. And effort made in Congress to penalize those states where lynching was carried on proved a failure. Now, however, the Negro is likely to obtain justice through the pressure of economic need where moral and legal methods have failed.

Kansas City Star 8/23/23 Kansas City, Mo.

With the shortage of manual labor there has come renewed migration of Negroes to the manufacturing regions of the North. The departure of so many of the Colored population is causing concern among southern planters and business men. They are confronted with the prospect of greatly curtailing their operations because of a shortage of labor. The signing by Governor Pinchot of a bill making participation in a lynching party in Pennsylvania first degree murder, coming at this time is an element in the situation not to be overlooked. It is likely to prove an influence that will increase the migration and so add to the labor shortage in southern states.

Leaders of the Negroes are advising them to take advantage of their present opportunity to find employment in parts of the country where, they are told, they will escape the peculiar dangers to which they are subjected in the southern states. This attitude of the leaders of the race is frankly stated in recent correspondence. Dr. Emmett J. Scott, secretary-treasurer of the Howard University, having appealed to Judge Elbert H. Gary to employ Colored Americans in the works of the United States Steel Corporation, an official of one of the Southern lumber producing companies protested, presumably on the ground that the Negroes were needed in the South. Replying to this protest, Dr. Scott said: "I very definitely feel that it is the duty of Colored people wherever opportunity offers to leave those sections where lynching and peonage are practiced upon them with impunity." He added that he knew that black men were likely to meet with difficulties in some of the northern regions, but that these difficulties were inconsequential when compared with the privilege of a free and untrammeled citizenship, along with better housing, better educational opportunities for the children, better wages and better treatment.

Such incidents may go far to put an end to the hangings, the shootings and the burnings of which Colored people have been the most numerous if not the only victims. It is lawlessness of a kind rampant in the South, but, it must be confessed, not unknown in the North. The present migration of the Negroes may hasten the day when there will be more general recognition of the fact that lynching and peonage do not pay whether victims be white or black. Perhaps that will make it easier to convince no small number of people that such practices are also a crime against civilization.—Portland (Me.) Press-Herald.

HOW TO DEAL WITH "ANGRY" MOBS.

When a mob of two thousand "angry" whites assembled in front of a Savannah, Georgia, jail Wednesday to lynch Walter Lee, accused of assaulting a white woman, the officers and their deputies, instead of surrendering the prisoner, fired into the mob, killing one and injuring a score of others.

Of course you know the "angry" mob dispersed. They decided that they were not so "angry" after all, when they found that the officers meant to do their duty, in the face of stiff opposition. C. Claude Parker, Jr., a member of the "angry" mob was slain when he refused to heed the command of the officers to disperse.

Kansas City Star

Let sheriffs and officers elsewhere read and take heed. The method employed by these Georgia officers is the only sure way of stopping lynchings. Its effect is more emphatic than the Dyer anti-lynching bill. When officers will put the fear of God in the hearts of these "angry" blood-hungry wolves, lynchings will stop in this land.

The action of the officers is nothing short of heroism. This simply shows what can be accomplished when men will do their duty instead of shirking before the opposition. These roughnecks counted on no opposition. They had counted easy. They had, no doubt, and had found it easy. They encountered a different attitude on the part of these officers, and the result is that the law is upheld, the prisoner will be duly tried, and the "angry" mob leaders and their crowd of would-be murderers were dispersed.

This action of the officers will be heralded across the continent. Over night, they will become famous, and yet they did only their duty. It requires courage often to do one's duty, but these officers seemed to have it in abundance, as the members of the "angry" mob found out.

Lynchings — 1923 Discussion. 1316 Negro Press, (Missouri) 1316

MISSOURI AGAIN FALLS VICTIM OF MOB MURDER

The St. Louis Argus 5-11-23

By Inter-Denominational Alliance

WHEREAS, We the Ministers Alliance representing the Christian leadership of Colored citizens of the State of Missouri in conference assembled, feel impelled by a sense of justice to enter a solemn protest against the public shame and scandal brought upon our beloved State of Missouri by the utter break down of law and order, the very foundation of Christian civilization which shows itself in constant outbreak and exhibition of unspeakable brutality practiced by the vicious element regarding not the majesty of law nor the importance of order and peace.

The lynching of Jim Scott at Columbia early Sunday morning is in no sense an exhibition of public distaste for the hideous crime alleged against the unfortunate victim of the brutal mob. If we could by any reasonable process conclude that the uprising of a people stirred by the ever growing resentment against crime, even of the nature of which the unfortunate man was accused, was the impelling motive rather than a thirst for blood, the conduct of the mob would at least be considered a subject of extenuating circumstances; but we know on the other hand, that, with more than one hundred eighty six men in one city alone, charged with and arrested for the crime of assault upon women, only sixteen Colored, with this knowledge and even within our own State and City, there are now a number of men, the majority of whom are not Colored, are charged with the like offense some of whom have been set free, has confirmed us in the opinion that the Negro is not murdered or lynched to appease an outraged public because of the crime(but to satisfy a passion for blood, that can satisfy only when drawn from a Negro's vein. We believe these constant outbreaks and mob murder and disrespect for law and human life is not a sign or expression of a righteous indignation of outraged public conscience, but the certain and unmistakable sign of the utter break down of modern Anglo Saxon Christian civilization.

We demand that these murderous people should not go unwhipped of justice and that those responsible for the protection of life and property as officers and guardians of the state should be held responsible for their glaring negligence and moral cowardice in office. To speak plainly, the shame of it all is more degrading when we realize that the Judge, the Prosecuting Attorney, the Jury as a Court of trial, backed up with the strong force of race prejudice all white, could at least be trusted with a trial of this man by law even if he was executed to please the people.

It is very hard to condemn a man and brand him with an unspeakable crime without giving him a chance to at least state his case. We hold no brief as a race for the moral character of the unfortunate victim of the mob, we seek not to condone crime if crime is committed, we ask no alibi for criminals of our race nor any other race. We demand justice and the reign of law for all men. Surely we could have found twelve men among the 1500 or 2000 constituting the mob at Columbia who could have been trusted to bring a verdict after due process of law that would have been both soothing and satisfying to a community with a thirst for blood. Of course it would have required a little more moral courage perhaps, and a trial by law, yet we do not hesitate to, say the verdict would have been the same. Alas! "the "2000 Brave Citizens?" who could march in the midnight hour through the open streets, doubted their ability to meet the unfortunate man in open court and so Missouri is permanently, added to the tier of states who make the lynching and murdering of Negroes a past time feature.

As representatives of our Race, we feel more hurt than angered—and the gloom, were it not for the bold stand taken by our brothers of the Ministers' Alliance (white) in their unqualified condemnation of the mob,, and the position taken by the Daily Papers of St. Louis in editorial denunciation, seemingly the final breath of a conscience which sighs for law and order and justice, we might despair. We wish here and now to express our gratitude for the stand taken. We express the hope that some way will be found to vindicate the majesty of the law in the State of Missouri and that law abiding Negroes will not be made to feel continually, that, although he may retire at night among peaceful, civilized beings, he is likely to be awakened by a blood thirsty mob ere the coming of another day with out the change of citizenship in the community.

Dr. Haw's Strictures Resented.

In reply to Dr. Marvin T. Haw's strictures on the Colored Ministry, and how much they are responsible for the criminal Negro, his alleged assault upon women are without foundation in fact and comes in bad taste. At this particular time, especially at a gathering of Christian Ministers who were attempting to register their unqualified condemnation of mob murder as a cure for the ills of our times. The Colored Ministry has spoken so loud and long and without reservation against the criminal element that it is generally accepted as a settled policy by loyal citizens and members of Negro Churches. It is particularly unfortunate that mob murders can always find among some Christian ministers of the white race occupying positions of influence, ready and willing to erect bold extenuating smoke screens behind which they offer apology for lynching Negroes in this country. The Colored Ministry of Missouri claim for themselves no special hypnotice power over the criminal element of their Race, by which they can change them from Demons to Angels; Dr. Haw may possess such powers but it has failed him miserably with the criminal element of his own race in this country—For among 186 men arrested for criminal assault, crime against women in one of our foremost cities covering a period of eleven months, only 16 were Colored. It is distressing to see some of our white brethren take themselves so seriously under the assumption of superior spiritual force, in discussing the short coming of the Colored Ministry. We are in need of a strong brave Ministry to guide the destiny of this nation and that need effect the entire Christian family in America regardless of race or creeds. We were not even defending the unfortunate victim of the mob at Columbia; he was in the hands of the law and why should we question the integrity of the courts?

Geo. E. Stevens, B. F. Abbott, A. R. Dobbins, R. L. Briscoe, C. A. Williams, S W. Parr, T. J. Moppin, Sec'y.

MO. STATE UNIVERSITY SHADOWS MOB ATROCITY

As we go to press, the news comes, that five men have been indicted by Boone county grand jury, charging them with first degree murder in connection with the lynching of James Scott last Sunday at Columbia.

It is understood that arrests will be made immediately. Sheriff Brown, it is said, realizes more fully now that he made the mistake of his life in not shooting to kill when the mob stormed the jail and murdered Scott. Therefore, he is determined to do all in his power to bring the leaders of the mob before the bar of justice.

Attorney Geo. L. Vaughn Of St. Louis, An Eye Witness, Tells How Mob, Led By Few Deliberately Worked, Step By Step Into The Jail

THE SHERIFF AND HIS DEPUTIES STOOD IDLY BY

The St. Louis Argus 5-11-23

They Offered No Resistance. Not A Shot Fired, Not A Threat Made By Officers Which Would Put Fear In Hearts Of Mob Leaders.

Victim Believed To Be Innocent Of An Alleged Attempt To Attack A Girl. Was An Ex-Soldier.

By Geo. L. Vaughn

"Oh, Lord, let me die! Oh, Lord, let me die," moaned Sarah Brown at two o'clock Sunday morning, April 29, as she frantically tore her hair and tossed wildly upon a bed to which friends had borne her after she had received news of the death of her son, James T. Scott, at the hands of the mob at Columbia, Missouri. Meanwhile, Scott's body was dangling at the end of a rope from Stewarts bridge where the cruel mob had left it thirty minutes before.

I went to Columbia from St. Louis last Saturday afternoon in response to a hurried telephone call to come and assist in the legal defense of James T. Scott, who was charged with attempted rape on Miss Regina Almstedt, daughter of a professor in the University of Missouri on the afternoon of April 20. I reached Columbia about 6:30 p. m., and was met by the Rev. J. Lyle Caston, pastor of the First Baptist Church, (colored) and was driven immediately to his home. He explained to me the situation while we ate dinner, and immediately thereafter, we went to the scene of the alleged crime and went over the ground carefully, making measurements and gathering facts to be used at the trial.

Mob Forms While Attorneys Confer

Later in the evening Mr. Caston and I went to the office of Mr. Anderson, a local white attorney, who also had been retained to defend Scott, and began to confer with him over the evidence which he had gathered in the case. While we were talking, there was a knock at the door, and Mr. Anderson stepped into the hallway and spoke with someone. As the man left he cautioned Mr. Anderson, "Be careful." Returning to the room, Mr. Anderson stated that a deputy had just told him the mob was coming to get Scott. We pulled out the lights and, from our vantage point overlooking the courthouse square, watched the gathering mob. At first, there were about a dozen men and youths; but they were quickly joined by others, all hurrying in the direction of the jail. Presently Mr. Caston and I left the building to go home, and we found the streets full of men, boys and a few women, hurrying toward the courthouse square. Already members of the mob, who had reached the jail, were yelling and making lots of noise. We detoured and reached home, finding Mr. Caston's family safe, and soon left again for the square.

Negroes Terror-Stricken

As we passed along the streets, we encountered little groups of terror-stricken Negroes, standing about, discussing the matter, but mostly asking questions. As the blood-curdling yells of the mob reached them, they would shudder and ask, "Will they get him? or exclaim, "This is too bad!" "Oh, what a shame!" or "I never thought this could happen in Columbia."

At first, only two or three had the temerity to venture near the mob-crowd; but the others, observing that these few were not being molested by the mob, kept coming until about fifty Negroes were near enough to the square to see what was going on. Mr. Caston and I mingled freely among them, but saw no disposition on their part whatever to interfere with the mob. St Louis Argus 6-4-23

By the time we had reached the square a second time, the crowd had grown so large that the active members of the mob could not be seen from where we were, just across the street.

Officers Make no Attempt to Protect Prisoner

Yelling, "Get the nigger," and screaming and shouting at the top of their voices, the members of the mob assaulted the jail. One entrance to that part of the jail building where the prisoners are kept is reached thru a long corridor which could easily have been defended by even one resolute officer of a mind so to do against a much more determined mob than the one which did its bloody work on Scott last Sunday morning; but they were of no such mind. Prosecuting Attorney Hulen, who was present, advised Sheriff Brown not to resist the mob for fear that some of the white persons forming it might be killed. Sheriff Brown, who 'tis said, was armed only with a wooden club, followed the advice given him and the leaders of the mob walked into the main part of the jail unmolested. A great shout went up from the crowd, when the leaders, tiring of the pleadings of the Prosecuting Attorney and Sheriff to let the law take its course, brushed past those minions of the law and entered the main part of the jail building. Here they at once began to hammer on the heavy steel door leading to the cells. Not a shot was fired by an officer of the law; not a single blow was struck, not even a finger lifted in an effort to stay the mob or to protect their prisoner. Meanwhile the crowd kept increasing. Men, boys and women kept coming in a steady stream, in automobiles and on foot, until finally there were more than a thousand persons surrounding the jail. They could be plainly seen in the bright moonlight and by the glare of automobile lamps. Not one wore a mask.

Curses, cries, jeers, commands to those battering at the doors inside, and the weak pleading of the official mingled in one awful tumult which rent the air and sent cold chills down the spine. But the crowd also had its fun. Time and again it roared horse with laughter at the quip of some wag or the antic of some one whose actions amused it. Always it returned to jeers and curses interspered with demoniacal blood curdling yell. It was plain that it was out for an exclusive American holiday, and it was having the time of its life.

Notifies the Governor

Rev. Caston and I went back to his home about two squares away, and put in a call for the Governor at Jefferson City. They said he was asleep and asked if it was important enough to awake him. We assured the operator that it was, and finally we got him. Handing me the receiver, Rev. Caston asked me to speak to the Governor, and I did, mentioning my name, and city. I told him the mob was at that moment hammering on the door of the jail trying to break in to get a Negro to lynch, and asked him to do something about it. Governor Hyde told us to have the operator connect him with the commanding officer of Battery B (of the 128th Field Artillery, Missouri National Guard), which is stationed at Columbia, and said he would order them out. We thanked the Governor, and deliverd his message to the oprator. During all this time, the blows of the mob against the jail door could be plainly heard. In fact, persons five and six blocks away heard them quite as plainly as we did.

We first called the Governor about 12 o'clock midnight, and about 12:15 a. m., he called up and informed us that he had reached the commander of the battery and had ordered him to get his men on the job at once, and prevent the lynching. The mob got Scott out of jail about an hour later, but the militia never showed up. It is said most of them were in the mob on the courthouse lawn and could not be found in their armory. Col. Williams, who was a spectator poth of the breaking of the jail and the lynching of Scott at the bridge, and, it is said, upon whose head the body of Scott would have fallen had the rope broken, said he had received orders from the Governor to call out the battery and protect the prisoner. He reports that he could only find four sergeants at the armory; but for some strange reason he did not see fit to take these men and assist the sheriff in protecting the prisoner. Himself, the battery commander, the four sergeants, the sheriff, his deputy jailer and the Prosecuting Attorney would have made nine officers of the law armed with rifles, or even machine guns, who could have prevented the mob taking the prisoner from the jail or even taken him from them at the bridge. They did not act. They looked on, and enjoyed it with the rest. These policemen walked thru the crowd, but they never molested anyone. The Chief pased the mob at work on his way home, but did not stop to molest them. He returned about the time the mob got Scott out of the jail.

Jailer Prevents Mob Entering His Home.

The mob had to break through three doors before it could reach the prisoner. The lock on the last door was burned off with an acetylene lamp which the mob got from a blacksmith shop that it broke open to obtain tools with which to work. All this consumed a long time—about two hours and twenty minutes, to be exact—and the members of the mob on the outside of the jail grew impatient waiting for the victim and went around to the main entrance to the jail with a sledge hammer and broke the outer door. Jailer Hall lives there with his family; and enraged at the audacity of the mob, he appeared at the kitchen door and shouted to them, "I'll shoot the first man who enters my house." The mob desisted and did not enter, one of the men saying, "Well, a man's got a right to keep fellows out of his own house."

The mob found Scott lying quietly on his bunk, wrapped in his jail blanket, where he had watched them in their work of breaking in to get him for nearly an hour. They seized him and put a rope about his neck and dragged him forth from the jail, meanwhile cursing him and knocking him down at short intervals. The crowd was so dense and eager to see the brutal work that progress was quite slow. Out in the jail yard a halt wa made while Prosecuting Attorney Hulen, acting circuit Judge Collier and Sheriff Fred Brown addressed the mob and urged them to let the law take its course. The militia and police stood in the crowd and watched the proceedings.

Tiring of their pleading, the mob headed for the bridge, three quarters of a mile away, shouting and hooting. One member o fthe mob fired his pistol into the air as a kind of celebration of the event, and the atuomobiles took the lead of the grewsome procession, tooting their whistles and adding greatly to the noise which had become a perfect bedlam. Members of the mob repeatedly struck Scott and tore his clothing from his body. He was knocked down several times on the way by first one bully then another who felt the urge to try the hardness of his knuckles and the valor of his strong right arm upon a helpless prisoner. Only one Negro followed the mob, and he witnessed the hanging.

"Sir, I Am Innocent."

Protesting his innocence to the last, Scott went to his death. When the mob reached the center of the bridge some one called for silence. "Dr. Almstedt wants to talk," it was said. The father of the girl pleaded with the mob not to hang Scott. "Take him back," he said. "Let him go to trial in a regular way. I do not want to countenance disorder, and ask you men not to do this thing." The professor was booed at and somebody shouted he ought to be horsewhipped for his remarks. Like the mob that crucified Jesus, they shouted, "Over with him," on all sides.

A Post-Dispatch reporter walked up to Scott and asked, "Are you guilty or not guilty?" Scott, without a quiver in his voice, replied, "Sir, I am innocent. I had nothing to do with this crime. How could I do such a thing when I am the father of a girl of that age?" He said I have no chance. Won't you plead for me?"

Someone asked the mob to reconsider. Reconsider hell," shouted a young man. Another wanted an investigation, but the mob would not hear to it. A moment later, a big man put a rope noose over Scott's head. "Oh, Lord," he prayed, "Thou knowest I am innocent. Have pity on my innocent soul. Wilt thou allow an innocent man to suffer?" But some must sacrifice, and I am ready. Amen."

The big man worked silently tying the rope to the bridge rail. He tied Scott's hands behind his back. The mob below was restless. "Over with him" they shouted. Scott said, "I am a good man. My wife never had trouble with a white man, like they say this other man had said. I am innocent."

As the big man finished his work, a woman shouted, "Let me fix that noose." There were two women within a few feet of Scott.

"Over with him, Over with him," the cries of the mob rose all around. Some wanted to wait. Others urged haste. They shouted, "The militia are coming." Scott said, "Gentlemen I am innocent."

The big man pushed Scott up on the rail. A roar arose from the crowd. Shrieks and fiendish yells made a perfect bedlam of noise. A crowd of howling savages were clamoring for innocent blood.

"Do you want a blindfold?" Some one shouted to Scott. He shook his head. The big man pushed him "Gentlemen, I am innocent." Scott repeated, and his body hurtled off backward. After a few kicks his body hung, dangling in the bright moonlight, within hearing distance of the big university which stands as the epitome of Missouri's culture and learning in the heart of a community long noted as the most cultivated and civil in this great commonwealth.

At two o'clock on the Sabbath morning the word had reached his mother and Sarah Brown, lay tossing in despair on her bed, piteously moaning "Oh Lord, let me die! Oh, Lord, let me die."

Scott Innocent

The girl's story is that she was returning from her music class and, as she was crossing the bridge, a Negro whom she did not know told her a little white child was playing down on the railroad tracks and that she had better go and get it before the train came along and kill it. She said she went down the flight of steps to the track and the Negro stood on the bridge and kept motioning her to go on further. Finally she got around a curve some two hundred and fifty yards south of the bridge. When she looked around again, the Negro was following her and was near her. She became frightened and tried to run away, but he caught her and pulled her back. He then attacked her, but she fought him off with her umbrella and went on home where she told her mother what had happened. She first fixed the time at 2:30 in the afternoon, but later changed it to 3:30. She also identified Scott as the man who had attacked her.

Scott worked that afternoon at the University, where he had been employed for a long time. At about ten minutes after three o'clock he came back to the school on a truck in company with another man, white, who had been helping him burn cadavers that had been used in the dissecting room in the medical department. He worked at cleaning and polishing floors, stairway and woodwork until 3:45 p. m. Another white witness corroborates this statement. This puts him at the university fifteen minutes beyond the last time which the girl fixed as the hour she was attacked. Scott said he continued to work about the building until 5 o'clock when he locked up, most of the time in the basement. No witness has been found who saw him there between 3:45 and 5 o'clock, but there is a white witness who says he talked to Scott about 5 o'clock as he was about to lock up the building. There is a very wide-spread belief that he was innocent.

The strange thing about the girl's identification is that Scott had worked at the university for some time and nearly every body out there knew him. The girl's father is a professor in the school and his family live on the campus with him. The daughter must have seen Scott about there many times, even if she did not know his name.

It is said that a colored woman who works for one of the wealthy families in Columbia, reported to her employer that she had seen the girl on the afternoon in question down on the tracks with a foreigner of dark complexion with straight black hair, and that this report had been communicated to the girl's mother. A handcar with railroad hands aboard is also reported to have passed the girl and the man while they were on the track. None of these persons saw any struggle or heard any outcry.

Scott was an ex-soldier, married and the father of three children, the eldest a girl of 15 years. His wife is a teacher in the public schools of Columbia and the family was highly respected. They were members of Rev. Caston's church.

The leaders of the mob are known to the sheriff, the prosecuting attorney, and a number of other persons who saw them in action. It is also charged that many students at the University of Missouri took part in the mob.

Lynchings—1923
Discussions—

Negro Press (Northern):

1327

SUME MORE SOUTHERN LOGIC.

In days gone by when we did not have quite so many demands upon our energies we used to amuse ourself by citing examples of the absurd logic in which the average Southern newspaper indulges whenever it touches the Negro question. And now there comes so flagrant a case that we cannot pass it by. We refer to an editorial in the "Times-Herald" of Dallas, Texas, the heading of which is: "For Critics to Ponder and Mobs to Digest."

The editorial read in par as follows:

New York Age 2-24-23

At the habeas corpus trial that Negro charged with the murder of Grady Skipworth was released. We commend to the notice of Northern newspapers an dof those pernicious Northern societies that stir up race trouble the willingness shown by the Waco people to let the law take its course even when the case against the black looked dark indeed.

It is quite evident that the law enforcement authorities consider him innocent. It is quite evident that Waco does not consider him guilty.

Suppose, however, when matters looked desperate for him a mob had seized him, broken hi sneck or made his body a flaming torch—he would have been dead; subsequent developments, whether, tending to show his guilt or his innocence, would have availed nothing so far as he was concerned. He would have been a sacrifice to the anger of the people.

This editorial is good so far as it goes but it entirely ignores certain facts that happened less than a year ago with which this same case is somewhat connected.

It is true that a man accused of killing Skipwith and who had been "identified" by a young white woman was released from jail when Roy Mitchell, another Negro, was arrested and confessed to having committed the crime himself: **but the Dallas "Times-Herald" says nothing about the fact that less than a year ago Jesse Thomas, a Negro, was charged with killing Harrell Bolton, a white man, and was also "identified" by a young white woman, and was lynched and burned by the mob for the crime which Roy Mitchell now confesses that he committed also.**

The Texas mob did refrain from lynching an innocent man charged with the murder of Skipwith, but on the other hand it did lynch and burn an innocent man charged with the murder of Bolton.

We do not see that the Dallas "Times-Herald" has anything to brag about or any reason for lecturing "pernicious Northern societies."

WATERTOWN N Y STANDARD
FEBRUARY 7, 1923

NEW YORK'S LYNCHING RECORD

New York State is not one of the commonwealths of this union that has not had a lynching in the last 10 years, according to a compilation by the Federal Council of Churches sent out in connection with a call to observe next Sunday as Race Relations Sunday, with emphasis on anti-lynching education.

Only four states in the Union have never had a lynching. They are Eastern states, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, New Hampshire and Vermont. Three others have had no lynchings in 33 years. They are Connecticut, New Jersey and Utah.

Nine other states have had no lynchings since 1912. They are Nevada, Colorado, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Michigan, Indiana, Iowa, Delaware and Pennsylvania. Thus it is seen that of the Eastern states New York alone is not free from this blot in the last 10 years.

In the last 33 years 83 women have been lynched. Seventeen of them were white women. Three out of every four persons lynched in the last 33 years were black.

Congress has left to the individual states the curbing of this type of lawlessness. New York is inclined to hold up its hands in horror over Southern atrocities, but its record is none too good. A few sermons to us about the matter may help awaken conscience.

BROOKLYN N Y CITIZEN
MARCH 5, 1923

NEW YORK'S LYNCHING RECORD

New York State is not one of the commonwealths of this Union that has not had a lynching in the last ten years, according to a compilation by the Federal Council of Churches just sent out in connection with a call to observe the next Sunday as Race Relations Sunday, with emphasis on anti-lynching education.

Only four States in the Union have never had a lynching. They are Eastern States, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, New Hampshire and Vermont. Three others have had no lynchings in thirty-three years. They are Connecticut, New Jersey and Utah.

Nine other States have had no lynchings since 1912. They are Nevada, Colorado, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Michigan, Indiana, Iowa, Delaware and Pennsylvania. Thus it is seen that of the Eastern States New York alone is not free from this blot in the last ten years.

In the last thirty-three years eighty-three women have been lynched. Seventeen of them were white women. Three out of every four persons lynched in the last thirty-three years were black.

Congress has left to the individual States the curbing of this type of lawlessness. New York is inclined to hold up its hands in horror over Southern atrocities, but its record is none too good. A few sermons to us about the matter may help awaken conscience.—Watertown Standard.

Collier's Weekly Demands Federal Anti-Lynch Law

2-23-23

NEW YORK, Feb. 21. (Special)—Collier's National Weekly (416 West 13th Street, New York) demands enactment of a federal law to prevent lynching, in the issue of February 17, according to a reprint sent out by the press service of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. The editorial in full is as follows:

The Nation Must Punish Lynchers

When the miners tried for the murder at Herrin were acquitted the other day, their lawyer commented that the mine guards had terrorized the community and the strikers rose in righteous rath. He gave the blanket excuse that is given for every mob that kills. Murder under any name, done for any excuse, is the same. Murder is murder regardless of who the murderers are and of who their victims are. This means mobs as much as individuals.

A mob in Harrison, Ark., kills a railroad striker. That is murder, though the killers think themselves public-spirited vigilantes. A mob in Louisiana tortures two men in a cotton press and kills them. That is murder, though the murderers wear silly regalia and call themselves high-spirited patriots and Heaven knows what else.

Our commonest type of mob murder is called lynching. But Harrison, Mer Rouge, Herrin, the burnings of Negroes at the stake, are all the same piece. Call them murders and have done with it.

It is almost a foregone conclusion that members of a murdering mob in a small community will be acquitted as were the Herrin miners. The defendants have much local sympathy. A jury that would convict can scarcely be had. A local prosecutor who will do his duty whole-heartedly must be one of singular courage and integrity.

If we hope to stop mob murders and punish the murderers There will have to be a Federal law, so drawn as to cover mob murders of all types, and to provide that cases resulting shall be for Federal prosecution in Federal Courts.

NEW YORK GLOBE DEMANDS REVIVAL AND ENACTMENT OF DYER ANTI-LYNCHING BILL.

New York, N. Y., Feb. 1.—New York's prominent daily, The Globe demands revival and enactment of the Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill by the Senate, in an editorial of January 17, forwarded by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, 70 Fifth Avenue, New York. The editorial is as follows:

The Arkansas Mob Murder.

The mob of Arkansas farmers who hanged a railroad striker may be morally different from the union sympathizers at Herrin, Ill., who brutally murdered mine guards and officials, but so far as the maintenance of the law is concerned the result of their action is the same. It is inconceivable that such an act could have occurred in any northern European country save Russia. The habit of lynching Negroes, which is popular in Illinois and Arkansas, breeds in contempt for the law which does not draw the color line. Consequently thecounty has the spectacle of a rich man who dared to give bail for an accused striker whipped by a mob. As to the origin of the Arkansas outrages, it is desireabl tosuspend judgement pending further information, but concerning the remedy there is no doubt. The enactment of a Federal anti-lynching law, with the assurance that the gentry who are addicted to this civilizing pastime will have the opportunity to explain their views on mob murder and torture to an impartial jury, will have a cooling effect upon emotions which now are uncontrolled. Congress ought in the name of decency to revive thepending bill and force it through to passage.

Lynchings—1923.
Discussions.

Negro Press. (New York.).

1328

HOW TO DEAL WITH THE MOB.

The New York Age. 6/30/23

The manner in which a mob bent on lynching was dealt with recently in Savannah, Georgia, constitutes, so far as we know, one of the most heroic efforts on record to protect a prisoner of the state and to uphold the law. The effort to do this was effective and successful because there was coordination between the sheriff of the county, the mayor of the city and the Governor of the State. The sheriff took the right stand; he was backed up by the mayor who, according to reports, ordered out the fire department to drench the mob. The Governor placed the city in charge of the militia, in fact, proclaimed martial law. One member of the mob was killed and another seriously wounded, but the prisoner was protected and the law upheld.

It is needless to say that a sheriff confronted by a determined mob is in a trying position. When he faces the mob he looks into the faces of many acquaintances, friends and perhaps even relatives. He knows if he has to shoot he is likely to shoot down not only men that he knows but also voters. In the South a sheriff cannot help but feel that to shoot down white men to protect the life of a Negro prisoner is equivalent to barring himself from holding office ever thereafter.

And so the action of the sheriff of Chatham County, his courage and devotion to duty, cannot be too highly commended. We hope that the citizens of Savannah and of the State of Georgia understand and feel that this determined opposition to the mob was not merly to save the life of a Negro boy but to maintain the laws of the State of Georgia, those laws which guarantee to every person accused of crime a fair trial in a duly constituted court. It seems an almost needless repetition to say that the oftener that guarantee is broken down in the case of colored men that more unstable is it rendered for white men. So in the long run it is the height of political wisdom to meet the mob promptly with force, with unstinted force if neceessary.

The news of a mob storming a jail at Savannah, Ga., was quite surprising. Savannah has always been different from the other large cities of Georgia. Colored people of that city have always had a larger degree of civil security. We do not know what caused this outbreak in Savannah but there are good reasons to believe that it will be a long time before there will be another. It will be safe to say that no outbreak will occur so long as the present sheriff is in office. There are probabilities, of course, that he will be oppposed at the next election by some candidate on the ground that he shot down white men to protect a Negro. We hope that the citizens of Chatham County will have better sense than to pay attention to any such issue.

When the excitement has subsided it would be well for the colored citizens of Savannah to make some expression of appreciation to the sheriff and other officials concerned for their efforts not merely in protecting the life of a Negro but in upholding and maintaining the laws of the State of Georgia.

Lynchings—1923
Discussions.

Negro Press, (New York.)

1329

SUPERSTITION DIES HARD.

For generations in the South, when a crime has been discovered, the practice has been to send for the sheriff, or any other person possessing bloodhounds, and to set them on the trail of the fugitive suspected of committing the offence. When these dogs found a scent and followed it to its source there was scant opportunity for the person trailed to avoid paying the penalty, however lacking the corroborative testimony connecting him with the crime. Many an innocent black man has been ruthlessly lynched because the pursuing bloodhounds stopped at his cabin when following a trail. It remained for the Chief Justice of the Louisiana Supreme Court to question the worth of such "bloodhound testimony" in a recent case on appeal.

Mitchell Davis of Franklin parish, a white man apparently, was convicted of murder because it was testified a dog followed a trail from the scene of the killing and brought up at Davis' home, a quarter of a mile away. The court affirmed the conviction, but the dissenting opinion of the Chief Justice secured for the defendant a rehearing of his petition for a new trial. In discrediting the reliability of such testimony, the Chief Justice said:

"The ruling that such evidence is admissable is contrary to the weight of authority and is violate of the fundamental right of an accused person to be faced by and to cross-examine the witness against him. In a sense, of course, it may be said that the bloodhound does not testify, that his conduct is the subject of the testimony merely as the circumstance showing guilt of the person trailed by the hound. But this statement, that the bloodhound does not testify, is only skin deep. The bloodhound, in such case, is a supposed expert witness, who cannot give any reason for his expert opinion of the guilt of the person whom he trails.

"To admit such testimony is the same as to say that testimony of lookers-on would be admissable to prove that a human being with an abnormal sense of smell trailed the person on trial and pointed him out as the guilty party even if the human being could not give any reason for his expert opinion. The administration of justice is a practical affair.

"Some men put more credance in weird, uncanny, unexplainable circumstances than they accord to simple facts, and some have more faith even in mediumistic messages from planchettes and ouija boards. The socalled 'bloodhound testimony,' being unexplainable, savors of superstition, and is as barbarous and dreadful as witchcraft itself."

And thousands of black men have been hanged and burned upon such testimony, the barbarous and dreadful character of such evidence being equally matched by the proceedings of the mob which accepted it. While most intelligent and thinking people will accept the Chief Justice's opinion as to the worthlessness of "bloodhound testimony" as convincing proof of guilt, it will be observed that his associates did not agree with him.

Superstition dies hard in Louisiana and other backward states, where such barbarous practices as lynching and mob law are tolerated and encouraged. When the dissenting opinion of the enlightened Chief Justice becomes the majority opinion of the court, we may hope for better things in Louisiana.

Women Pledge Utmost Efforts In Anti-Lynching War

Inter-Racial Commission Group Sets Out on Definite Crusade. Will Seek Cooperation of Organized Womanhood of Whole South.

(Special to THE NEW YORK AGE)

Atlanta, Ga.—At the recent annual meeting of the Commission on Inter-Racial Cooperation, the woman's section of the Commission brought in a vigorous paper on lynching and asked the Commission to authorize that the matter be brought to the attention of the various women's organizations of the South and that they all be asked to cooperate in a sustained and systematic effort to eradicate this great evil.

The Commsission, which has been constantly at work toward the same end, gladly gave its approval to the plan by unanimously adopting the resolutions presented by the women. which were as follows:

WHEREAS,

Lynching, at one time practiced only as punishment by the mob for the violation of womanhood, is now resorted to even for robbery petty crime, or no crime. At present the responsibility for the punishment of lynchers and the abolition of the evil rests solely in the several State Governments. We, the Woman's Committee of the Commission on Interracial Cooperation, are overwhelmed with a deep sense of humiliation that this hideous crime is heralded abroad as the only means available to men for the protection of womanhood. We likewise suffer because of the seeming impotence of our state governments in the protection of human life and in their inability to find and punish lynchers and members of mobs who, in the absence of sufficient law enforcement by the regularly constituted authorities presume to assume the role of Judge and Jury—thus themselves becoming the greatest of law violators therefore

BE IT RESOLVED,

1. That we deplore the failure of State Governments to handle this, the most conspicuous enemy to justice and righteousness, and the most flagrant violation of the Constitution of our great nation.

2. That we definitely set ourselves to the task of creating such sentiment as is possible to us in each State of our territory to the end that not only sufficient laws shall be enacted to enable the trusted officers of the law to discharge their full duty but to se-

in existence.

3. That the Director of Woman's Work of the Commission, Mrs. Luke Johnson, Palmer Building, Atlanta, Ga., be and is hereby instructed to secure the presentation of this resolution to all our cooperating organizations and State Committees, and further to put into effect such plans as are necessary to secure a sustained effort on the part of our women to the accomplishment of these ends.

Mrs. T. W. BICKETT, chairman
Miss EMMA WHITFIELD,
secretary pro tem

Private Executioners of the Law.

(From New York Times.)

The Times publishes dispatches from several states, including Ohio, representing the authorities as aroused to action by the spread of peculiar types of lawlessness. From many places reports poured in of citizens kidnapped, called out of their homes and flogged by a masked mob, warned to leave the vicinity, or in some cases brought in imminent peril of their lives. There was no direct connection of these outrages with the Ku Klux Klan, but the methods practiced were suspiciously like those of that highly patriotic organization. The main point of interest, however, is that Governors and Sheriffs have been stirred to unusual activity by thees sporadic but recurring outbreaks. Gov. Walker of Georgia threatens to declare martial law in Bibb County if conditions do not improve, and asserts his intention, in any case, to employ the full power of the Executive to enforce the law.

It would be needless, and perhaps unfair, to point out that these whippings and deportations of white men have stirred Southern Governors more than have the lynchings of Negroes. The two things go well together. They have a common root in the impulse of individuals to take the law into their own hands. Long ago it was predicted that unchecked execution of vengeance upon colored men would inevitably go further and affect the attitude of whole communities toward law enforcement in general. If it is conceded to be tolerable to take a Negro out of a jail and hang him, it will not be long before it is considered the right thing to lash a white offender and drive him out of the county or out of the State. There is no escape from all sorts of extremes and dangers the moment you teach people that it is proper for them to execute the law—in the sense of using physical violence against men and women who have made themselves disliked or dreaded—instead of leaving the duty with the public authorities. So far as the plain speaking and resolute action of the Governors tend to call people back to their senses, and to remind them in a stern way that they must not usurp the functions of the duly appointed officers of justice, their course must be warmly commended. Too many Americans appear today to require the sharpest kind of notification that it is a crime for them to set themselves up as prosecutor judge, jury and executioner.

INTER-RACIAL BODY DEPLORES LYNCHING

ASHEVILLE, N. C.—Resolutions deploring what was termed the failure of State governments to handle properly the lynching problem were unanimously adopted today by the commission on inter-racial cooperation which is in session here. The resolutions drew no distinction between the various sections of the country and deplored failure to stamp out lynching which was termed "the most conspicuous enemy to justice and righteousness and the most flagrant violation of the constitution of our great nation."

Lynchings—1923.
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Negro Press, (Pennsylvania).

1323

Californians have formed a lynching society and serves notice that they will take law into their own hands in defense of womanhood. It is oath-bound and ruthless, but able to strike with vengeful fury that does not stop short of death, say the reports. Good for women-protecting California. If the members of this society would dare reveal their records to this degenerate world, there would be some weeping in their homes for the misery and desolation many of them have caused in the lives of women. Brave and clean men never bind themselves together to commit murder under a mask of protecting womanhood.

Richmond, Virginia, has contributed another organization to America's multiplying bodies for taking the law into their own hands. It gives us the Anglo-Saxon Clubs formed for "the preservation and maintenance of Anglo-Saxon ideals and civilization in America." They call this patriotism. We suppose the members may devote themselves to antiquarian research, philological learning and draw pictures illustrating the customs and manners among the Saxon ancestors. They may make and preserve a good record, but we doubt it. Perhaps they will overlook history beginning with the Norman Conquest, forget some living facts about the issue of their stock from the great Scandinavian hive. Let us hope they will not overlook their contribution to the absorption of Africans by vulgar miscegnation, as one of their "honorable" traditions.

Southern Senator Works Out Plan To Abolish Inhuman "Lynch Law

The Pittsburgh Courier
Aug 18 1923

DEMOCRATIC STATESMAN FINDS SANE AND RATIONAL WAY TO STOP MOB VIOLENCE

Pittsburgh Pa.

Maryland Senator Declares That Uniform State Law, Endorsed and Backed by Leading Citizens of Both Races, to Impose Heavy Penalties on Offenders. Proper Method.

(Exclusive Interview Staff Correspondent)

By EDGAR G. BROWN

BALTIMORE, Aug. 9. — "As a member of the Senate, I propose so far as it shall lie in my power, to see that the Negro receives fair and just treatment in every respect," said the newly-elected Senator W. Cabell Bruce, from the old ex-slave state of Maryland. Mr. Bruce was painted by the colored press as an arch enemy during his recent campaign. Reminded of this fact the Senator added, "I made no especial appeal to the Negro voter last fall, nor did I concern myself about refuting any accusation that I was unfriendly to the Negro; but after I had been elected, I stated that any Negro voter who had voted for me would never have any reasonable cause to regret his vote.

"This statement I now repeat. I shall avail myself of all the little influence that my office may give," continued the Senator, "to do whatever I can to bring to an end the savage and abominable practice of lynching—a practice that is unworthy of any community that effects to possess the merest rudiments of civilization, but not by voting, as a Senator, for the Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill; for in my judgment that bill is a palpably unconstitutional measure; and, even if it were not, it would, if enacted, be such an irritating interference with the domestic interests of the States that the bitterness engendered by it would be much more likely to make it productive of harm than of good.

"The true way to stamp out the iniquity and disgrace of lynching is for a large number of leading men, white and colored, in the Southern States to unite in a written appeal to the Governors of those states to recommend to their several legislatures the passage of some uniform law that, in addition to the penalties prescribed by the ordinary law of the land for homicide, would impose severe penalties upon all public servants, concerned with the administration of justice, who refused or failed to protect, to the full extent of their ability, a victim of lynchign; and also a heavy pecuniary fine, for the benefit of the victim's family, upon the community in which the lynching occurred, as well. That, with such an appeal to the Governors of the States in question, and with such recommendations by them, such a law would, in some efficacious form or other, be passed by such legislatures, I do not allow myself to doubt; for I am satisfied that the more generous impulses of the white people of the South towards the Negro need but to be organized and properly guided to make their influence irresistible. At any rate, the experiment would be worth trying; and, if any state where lynching has been common were to decline to commit itself to a truly effective policy for terminating such a hideous abuse, it would deserve to be an object of reproach to every other State in the Union which has gotten beyond the jungle stage of human existence and its mere animal lust for blood.

"In Virginia, to her infinite honor, be it said, though a state with a very large Negro population, lynching by reason of reforms in criminal law procedure and of a firm use of the military arm of the State, seconded by the moral and intellectual progress of the Negro himself, has for all practical purposes been completely rooted out."

Coming from Senator Bruce, a Virginian by birth, and a Marylander by adoption, knowing, understanding and appreciating the Southern viewpoint as no Northerner ever could, his words will command thoughtful attention throughout the whole Southland. The writer had an opportunity to read scores of letters from leading public men, including Senators, Governors, Congressmen, clergymen and educators, both black and white, who have stamped Mr. Bruce's tentative plans with their whole-hearted sanction, and stating a willingness to actively cooperate in all possible ways.

To assure effective enforcement of any law, public sentiment must stand behind it, as the obvious and open violations of the Prohibition amendment has shown to an unprecedented degree, and the steps of Senator Bruce, of Maryland, in arousing the interest of the South itself and appealing to each and every state to act separately, but in complete sympathy by the several Governors urging the State legislatures to act for the sake of the Commonwealth's own name and good faith, will undoubtedly be effective in destroying mob violence and relegating the inhuman practice of lynching into the pages of oblivion, with the peonage evils and whipping post that were abolished by the recent Florida legislature.

Governor Albert C. Ritchie, Governor of Maryland, made the following comment: "I believe Senator Bruce's plan in calling a conference of State executives on the question of the growing spirit of mob violence and the un-American practice of human lynching is not only timely, but will bring about the promotion of immediate and definite steps by the States themselves in abolishing these evils."

Former Senator John Walter Smith, one of the National as well as Maryland leaders of the Democratic party, made the following statement, "No genuine 100% American believes in mob law, it being contrary to the tenets of democracy and all human justice. For years I have stood for a fair chance to every man, and those rights guaranteed by the Constitution. The States themselves must and should protect its citizens under all conditions. Maryland will join the movement."

Bishop A. J. Carey, of the Chicago Conference of the African Methodist Episcopal Church, said: "This courageous forward step taken by a democratic Senator from an ex-slave state will find no precedent in the annals of American history."

Bishop Coppin, of Philadelphia, wrote: "Senator Bruce has proven a sane, practical statesman, as well as friend of all humanity."

A nationally prominent Negro educator praised Mr. Bruce and added, "At last America produces a man in high public office, with no immediate election in sight, who sees his duty and hews to the line."

Mayor's veto to the memory of his political predecessor, who also brought up the so-called best colored leaders of the "silk stocking" crowd. Philadelphia is about to elect a new Mayor and note the spectacle of a dozen colored men going down to the boss-picked candidate appealing to him to treat them more like men, when they come beggar fashion, hat in hand, purporting to represent all the 140,000 colored voters in Philadelphia.

We wonder, where are the real leaders of the colored people of Philadelphia—the ministers of the gospel and men like John T. Gibson, the most successful business man this generation has produced among colored people. We are sure most of these gentlemen know that Chicago has two colored aldermen in the city council and only 140,000 colored voters, to Philadelphia's 140,000, one of these is on the finance committee, the other on the transportation committee to assist in the plans for Chicago's great subway system. Are the schools any different in the Windy City and the great Quaker center of learning? The democratic Mayor of Chicago, to whom the colored people gave a large plurality on election day last April, has appointed a colored assistant corporation counsel at a salary of $6,000 per year, with four assistants at $3,600 annually. How does this compare with the much vaunted clerkship at $2,500 per year grudgingly given one colored man in Philadelphia for fifty years of dumb, leaderless election of white bosses by the colored voters. The colored people in Chicago have a civil rights law, while the good Republican bosses, including the late Senator Penrose, Vare and Charlie Hall, people to receive their just rights not necessary; the very best friends of the colored The same Republican bosses now ators reasoned people, so their hand-picked colored whose pusillanon, spineless, brain-but since several have been retired spokesman in Philly contend, did not less Negroes beg "please be nice to to private life in Indiana, Delaware, exert themselves sufficiently with the us" and we will again trust you, New Jersey, New York, etc., with legislature controlled by them for all though you denied us a civil rights some more to follow, especially in other purposes in helping the colored bill flatly because you thought it was The recent action of the Illinois.

so-called Republican Negro National convention in Atlantic City in absolutely refusing to indorse any part or person of the present administration, and the resolution to hold the race's interest paramount to any political party in spite of certain Philadelphia attendance, has not yet become evident to certain impervious white bosses and their Negro sycophants. "Truth finally comes to light and the mills of the God grind slowly, but exceedingly fine;" and it is our hope to see the passive but large number of intelligent, good, law-abiding citizens of Philadelphia rise to the call of an enlightened ministry to come out of the darkness into the sunlight of truth and righteousness. The new Negro in Philadelphia and the open-minded newcomer will be seen joining hands to save the race from the disgrace of white bosses and the "silk stocking" crowd, who play upon the less advantageous position of the large masses of their fellow citizens for their own selfish aggrandizement.

Lynchings—1923
Discussions.

Negro Press (Tennessee)

1314

WOULD STOP LYNCHING

GOVERNOR OF ARKANSAS TAKES BOLD STAND AGAINST THE PRACTICE

Nashville Tenn.
Nashville Globe
2/2/23

Little Rock, Ark., Jan. 30.—(By Associated Press.)—Whether the findings of the Arkansas legislature's committee, now conducting an inquiry into the recent disorders on the Missouri and North Arkansas Railroad, during which one man was lynched and other strike employes expelled from the region, will result in the enactment of an anti-lynching law for this state, is a topic members of the committee are discussion during the lull in taking of testimony.

No witnesses were examined at last night's hearing of the committee. Yesterday, however, Gov. T. C. McRae, in a message to the legislation is needed to prevent a on the Missouri and North Arkansas and touching on the lynching of E. C. Gregor, one of the striking employes, declared:

"When you have completed the investigation, I suggest that additional legislation is needed to prevent a repetition of such occurances. Let me urge you to enact some anti-lynching legislation before you adjourn.

"Without regard to his guilt or innocence, Gregor was entitled to a legal trial, and the taking of his life without indictment and trial was an outrage and a disgrace. I think compensation should be made to his family by the general assembly without delay."

Gov. McRae commended the committee on the progress of its inquiry.

The legislators are undecided when they will transfer the inquiry to Harrison, center of the disturbances which followed burning of bridges on the railroad. As there are a number of striking employees yet to be heard and, since they have protested against the proposal to have them testify in Harrison, the committee announced that all who preferred to testify in Little Rock would be given the opportunity to do so.

A majority of the members of the citizen's committee which is charged with having deported the strikers, have signified that they will testify at Harrison. The committee indicated that the Harrison hearing would not be held before next week.

General tenor of the testimony has been of the strikers side, that they were ordered to renounce union affiliations or quit the region and on the "citizens' committee" side that sabotage on railroad property led them to fear the railroad, which is the only line serving the territory, would be demoralized.—Nashville Banner.

Lynchings — 1923
Discussion

Negro Press, (Texas.)

1312

COLLIER'S WEEKLY DEMANDS FEDERAL ANTI-LYNCH LAW.

Dallas Express

Collier's National Weekly (416 West 13th Street, New York) demands enactment of a federal law to prevent lynching,. in the issue of February 17, according to a reprint sent out by the press service of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People The editorial in full is as follows:

The Nation Must Punish Lynchers.

When the miners tried for the murder at Herrin were acquitted the other day, their lawyer commented that the mine guards had terrorized the community and the strikers rose in righteous wrath. He gave the blanket excuse that is given for every mob that kills. Murder under any name, done for any excuse, is the same. Murder is murder regardless of who the murderers are and of who their victims are. This means mobs as much as individuals.

A mob in Harrison, Ark., kills a railroad striker. That is murder, though the killers think themselves public-spirited vigilantes. A mob in Louisiana tortures two men in a cotton press and kills them. That is murder, though the murderers wear silly regalia and call themselves high- spirited patriots and Heaven knows what else. 3-3-23

Our commonest type of mob murder is called lynching. But Harrison, Mer Rouge, Herrin, the burnings of Negroes at the stake, are all off the same piece. Call them murders and have done with it.

It is almost a foregone conclusion that members of a murdering mob in a small community will be acquitted as were the Herrin miners. The defendants have much local sympathy. A jury that would convict can scarcely be had. A local prosecutor who will do his duty whole-heartedly must be one of singular courage and integrity

If we hope to stop murders and punish the murderers, we shall have to act as a nation. There will have to be Federal law, so drawn as to cover mob murders of all types, and to provide that cases resulting shall be for Federal prosecution in Federal courts.

SOUTHERN WHITE WOMEN FAVOR THE DYER ANTI-LYNCHING BILL

Dallas Express

(Preston News Service)

Columbus, Ga., Feb. 22.—At a meeting of the South Georgia Women Missionary Society here last Tuesday resolutions were passed condemning mob violence and upholding the Dyer Anti-lynching bill. One spenker said, "It is a blight on the fair name of these United States that such a bill of the Dyer Anti-Lynching bill should have been defeated in congress. The horrible attrocities committed against Negroes principally throughout this country and more especially in the southern states with our own state and Texas usually leading the list of such uncivilized and diabolical crises, are making this country the laughing stock of the world. When I was in Europe last summer Europeans referred to lynching as an American past time. Some of them even were frank enough to ask about the wisdom of the United States attempting to act as guardian for conduct in Europe, when such things as lynching, mob violence and the Ku Klux Klan were so prominent in this country.We cannot hope to have our boasted superior civilization respected by other nations unless we clean house at home. The Dyer Anti-Lynching bill was the first step toward curing one of our worst evils."

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LYNCHING AND HOW TO STOP IT

Dallas Express

Philadelphia, Penn., Feb. 22.—At the last meeting of the Board of Managers of the Board of Temperance, Prohibition and Public Morals of the Methodist Episcopal Church, Rev. J. N. C. Coggin, D. D. Secretary for Colored work, offered the following resolution on lynching: 2-24-23

"We call earnestly upon the Methodist people throughout the length and breadth of the land to consider prayerfully and with a sense of duty the great problem of racial relations. Methodist ministers, both white and Colored, should appeal to the Christian conscience of every community to stamp out the custom of lynching and to minimize those points of friction between the races which result in race warfare.

"Particularly urgent is the duty of the white people of the country to see that everyone charged with crime has a fair and open trial in efficient courts. It is a mistake to think that lynching is a necessity or that court action is not a deferrent to all forms of crime.

Too long has this issue been the football of politics and the subject of sectional recrimination. The problem has become national in its scope. The white people of the country control the courts and make the laws and for them to go outside of the law in the handling of crimes is a degradation of themselves, an indictment of the governments which they have created, a humiliation to every state and a national scandal. Specific grievances of either the white or Colored people of various communities should be corrected by frank conferences and complete understanding. If the Christian conscience of the nation is aroused the racial problem will disappear without further legislation or agitation which is fringed with hostility.

"We commend the Inter-Racial Commissions which have done so much to promote good will and dissipate misunderstanding in various states and we recommend the extension of the policy of inter-racial discussion and understanding to wider spheres."

WHAT ABOUT SCHULENBERG, GOVERNOR?

The action of the acting governor, T. W. Davidson, in demanding an investigation into the Somerville outrage and his painful silence regarding the mobocratic orgy at Schulenberg, is rather difficult for this paper to understand.

It is true that the Somerville victim, who was slain within the sacred precincts of his own home, was a white man, and the victim of the Schulenberg lynchocrats was a black man; but does this difference in color of the victims determine the action of the acting governor?

If the depredation and cowardly act of a number of masked men who invaded the home of a citizen and ruthlessly murdered him, is enough to demand official investigation (and we believe that the unwarranted act called for such action), then by what method of reasoning should the mob's atrocious crime of seizing an accused culprit (no trial had been held and his guilt had not been established by due process of law) and treating him to a dose of America's famous pastime and exodus stimulant be overlooked by the acting governor of the Lone Star State?

Perhaps the acting governor does not know that lynching and its attendant evils are doing more to precipitate a rift between the two races in the South and add impetus to the migration of colored Southerners to the North and East than any other type of Dixie injustice and atrocity.

During the first six months of 1923 Texas barely remained in the Lynching League, having staged only one mobocratic fest; but hardly had the percentage of the teams' standing for the first six months been published before the Lone Star State made a noble effort to get in the race for premier honors in Judge Lynch's loop for the second half of the present season.

The acting governor or the governor should never permit any lynching bee to be pulled off in this state without at least putting up a front at an investigation, or he should at least issue an official condemnation of the heathenish and hellish horror.

The players in the Lynching League consider such silence as an approval of their act and thus they never lose an opportunity to stage one of their celebrated and famed stunts.

Texas was the only Southern state that showed an increase in colored population during the last decade; but if mob law and gang rule are to prevail in Texas, then the 1930 census will disclose the fact that Texas is minus several thousand of its black population.

For years Georgia either led the Lynching League or ran Texas and Mississippi close second; but today Georgia is face to face with an economic situation that is both acute and alarming, all due to the hegira of the maltreated colored brother to more civilized and humane climes.

Mississippi has also learned her bitter lesson too late and her rich and fertile lands are idle, growing up in weeds and proving a liability to the big land owners and planters.

The colored man is not going to remain in the South and be food for the hungry and howling exponents of the Lynching League, and as long as other sections of the country invite him and offer him better inducements, he is going to migrate and migrate in large numbers.

If Texas wants to get in the sad plight and dilemma of Georgia and Missisippi, just let her continue to aid, abet and condone such atrocities as the Schulenberg mobocratic demonstration and some morning the white leaders of the state will awake and discover that their black brother has joined his fraters from Georgia, Mississippi, Florida, Arkansas, Alabama and other states of the mobocratic South in their new home in the North and East.

Despite the fact that fully ten days have elapsed since the unfortunate colored man was lynched on the streets of this little one-horse Texas burg, not a single voice has been raised from any circle, among the whites, in Texas.

We have even failed to see where the Inter-Racial Commission has wired the acting governor protesting against such barbarities and it seems, from this angle, that the mob's action has met the unqualified endorsement of the entire state.

But The Informer wishes to warn and advise the acting governor and others who are interested in Texas that, while investigating Somerville, Schulenberg should not be overlooked; for such incidents have a funny way of reacting at the wrong time.

Our Southern white friends are imploring the race leaders to urge and prevail with the colored people to remain in the South; but how in the name of high heaven do they expect these colored leaders to make any headway in the face of such atrocities and barbarities as pulled off by the players of the Lynching League in the various Southern states, who seem to be running an annual race to see which state can lynch the largest number of colored Americans?

Do the white Texans desire their colored brothers to migrate? Are they tired of and disgusted with their colored neighbors? Do they favor law and order or lynch law and gang rule?

The law must know no color line, for when it does it ceases to be THE law and merely becomes A law!

Here's hoping that Texas' chief executive will pay a little attention to such fiendish and atrocious crimes as the recent one perpetrated at Schulenberg and not permit such acts to go unchallenged; for lynch law will ultimately destroy any people who engage in it or any nation that tolerates and condones it.

What about Schulenberg, governor?

Lynchings—1923
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Negro Press. (Texas).

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THE SOUTH'S DUTY BY THE NEGRO.

Dallas Express June 9, 1923

For much of the tribulations inevitably in store for those of the Negroes who are leaving their homes in the South to find employment in the congested centers in the West, the Southern white people and the Negro preachers must bear a share of responsibility—the white people for indifference to the activities of the employment agencies that are inducing this labor to quit the South, and the Negro preachers for not giving the warning word to the Colored people against being victimized as they have been many times before. Bishop Chappele, of the South Carolina Conference African Methodist Episcopal Church, is doing his race a service of inestimable possibilities when he urges the Negro preachers throughout the South to make practical use of their pulpit opportunities in discouraging the Negroes in any movement that would take them from their homes. The Bishop is asking these preachers to sermonize the situation, and we can imagine the beneficent results from a few sermons in the Negro churches directing the minds of the congregations to the one important circumstance that they are not being tolled away for their own good, but rather for the selfish purposes of the employment bureaus who turn them over to other agencies and leave them to their fate. The Negro preachers could also impress the fact upon the minds of their people that the so-called Ku Klux organization has not so far given the Negroes in the South any trouble, and that Ku Klux talk is being used for the purpose of creating a scare among them.

But before dismissing the excellent suggestion by the South Carolina Negro Bishop, The Observer is minded to commend him further for the suggestion that the Southern landowners make better provision for the health and comfort of the Negroes. The poor accommodations afforded the tenant farmers in the South is a standing reproach to the people of this section, and upon it is justly founded much of the cause for the discontent that is sending labor from the farms. The farmer who is wise to provide comfortable homes for his help will find the lesser difficulty in keeping his farm going. A comfortable home goes a long way in nullifying discontent over inadequate wages. Under the old ideas the farmer gives his attention too much to the bungalow, the silo and the barn, and too little to properly housing his tenant. Under developing conditions, the time is coming when it will be no decent home, no tenant.

Almost every State in the South has a law to fit the case of agents who come to entice labor away. North Carolina enforced it in the days when Peg Leg Williams was raiding the State. Peg was a fine fellow, and the people almost cried when they learned that he had been jailed at Laurinburg—but the hundreds of Negroes he had tagged for exportation remained in the State.

The human duty of the people of the South is to exercise every means in combatting the seductive influences of the employment agent. The experiences in store for the Negroes now going into the populous centers in the West is very likely to be a repetition of their experiences in the past. Their coming in large numbers will be resented by the people among whom they locate. There will ensue ill-treatment, rough handling—and after that the riot. History will not be true to itself if this does not prove to be the case.

We do not appear to be doing our duty in safeguarding the welfare of the Negro. Our Southern men in Congress likewise might be indicted for neglect of opportunity. They let it slip a few days ago when the Dyer bill was under discussion. At the same time, Dr. Robert Moton, principal of Tuskegee Institute, was going over Georgia in company with 12 associates on what he termed "a good-will tour." In the course of his speeches Doctor Moton gave eloquent testimony to the good relations existing between the Negro and the Southern white people, maintaining that the black man had no friends in all the world quite so good as the white people among whom he lives. The Observer believes inestimable good would have been accomplished if these speeches of Doctor Moton could have been incorporated in Southern illuminatve speeches on the floor of Congress, to inclusion of publication in The Congressional Record. That The Observer's notion was one which held popular attention is attested by the letters being received at this office. One well-known North Carolinian, living quite remote from this part of the State, wants to thank The Observer for the suggestion that Doctor Moton's addresses "be put in pamphlet form and circulated among the associates of Mr. Dyer and Mr. Tinkham in the New England States and Middle West." He had written to Washington and suggested that the Moton speeches be read into The Congressional Record, because "a finer proof of the falsity of Dyer's position would be hard to get, considering the high authority from which it emanates." The fact ought to have dawned upon the country by this time—it was already known in the South—that Dyer and Tinkham are backed by an organization for which a lot of hotheaded Northern Negro preachers serve as the mouthpiece, not one of whom is familiar with the favorable conditions people of their color live in the South, and who, under their mistaken ideas, are making attack upon the best friends the Negroes will ever have.

The Southern white people, aided by the intelligent Negro preachers, ought to be establishing a more active degree of co-operation in protecting our Negro population from their enemies. The very pity in the situation is an appeal for action. —Charlotte (N. C.) Observer.

SENTIMENT AGAINST LYNCHING.

(Texas) 6/13/23. Dallas Express

The Columbia State recalls that thirty years ago a meeting was held in a South Carolina county court house to condemn that paper for daring to denounce a lynching. A State senator presided and many prominent citizens were present. The State declares no such meeting could be held today, and sees marked progress in the fight to abolish the lynching evil.

Progress has certainly been made in turning public sentiment against lynching. The State is right in assuming that no such meeting as the one held thirty years ago could be held in the open today. Responsible newspapers throughout the South are unanimous in their condemnation of lynching, and they have the majority of the best people in the Southern States with them on the issue.

But public sentiment against lynching has not become militant enough to stop the progress of the lynching evil itself, or to urge the State authorities to do much to punish lynchers. It is only occasionally that a State makes any serious effort to apprehend or punish those guilty of mob murders. It is apparent that the influences at work to stop lynching have a considerable way to go yet before they have public sentiment sufficiently militant against lynching to translate itself into action through the enforcing machinery of the States.

At the present time the status seems to be that while the majority of responsible citizens deplore lynchings and condemn them in an academic sort of away, they stop short of doing anything about them after they occur.

Unless public sentiment becomes more militant in this respect and acts through the States, the rejoicing the proponents of States' rights have been indulging in over the recent defeat of the Dyer anti-lynching bill will be short-lived. The lynching evil will not be permitted to go much further in the United States. If the States do not become more effective in suppressing it, Federal action is inevitable in some form. The reckless element in the population which is ready to take the law into its own hands on slight provocation, should not assume that the defeat of the Dyer bill gives them free reign to vent their passions with impunity.

Houston Post

Mob Law And Texas.

Is Texas about to wake up to the danger of descending farther into barbarity because of the impunity with which mobs and masked hands operate within her borders?

Some such question as this is sure to be raised in the minds of every right thinking Texan by the statement of acting governor Lynch Davidson in the case of the murder of Otto Lange that

"In offering a reward for the assassins of Otto Lange I am doing it in the hope that it will impress the people of Texas that mob violence should and must stop.

"Men must learn to rely upon the law as society's protector and avenger. If its arm is not long enough it must be lengthened, and its judgment made more swift and certain. The surest way of securing this end is to let the public know that the law is its proper and only recourse.

"Mobocracy in its various forms has grown to such an extent in Texas that the whole public must frown upon it. I do not hope for the few paltry dollars to bring in the evildoers in any great number, but I do hope that it will, to some degree, sound the tocsin of alarm and that, in aroused public sentiment, it will stiffen the arm of the courts in stamping out an evil which can grow into such proportions as to choke civilization itself.

The masked mob is the most dangerous of all the species. It is a conspiracy, organized with a formed design, and with malice afore-thought to commit a crime and conceal its perpetrators. It works as from ambush. It protects its members by disguise as well as by its numbers There is no defense and should be none to murder committed under the mask."

These words contain in them a bit of truth which cannot be denied. Texas is lawless. The barrier which separates her citizens from complete reversal to barbaric days is thinner than is commonly recognized.

She has led the nation in lynching for more than a single time and nearly every day witnesses some new outrage which plants cinstituted authority and makes a mockery of established law.

Heretofore public opinion by its silence has acquiesced in these acts.

Let us hope that this action by the Lieutenant Governor may not be wasted but that it may bear abundant fruit in the support of lawful proceedure which he recommends.

SOUTHERN BAPTIST CONVENTION AND METHODIST MISSION BOARD ADOPT RESOLUTIONS CONDEMNING BRUTALITY IN COMMUNITIES.

Atlanta, Ga., June 22.—Strong statements adopted last month by the Southern Baptist Convention and the Southern Mehodist Board of Missions are pointed out by the Commission on Interracial Cooperation as further indication of the growing determination of the South to eradicate lynching and mob violence. These bodies represent the two greatest denominations in the South, with an aggregate membership of about six millions. The Baptists in annual convention in Kansas City, adopted the following:

"This Convention has repeatedly gone on record as unalterably opposed to all sorts of mob violence and mob rule. Perhaps the most vicious and the most dangerous form of lawlessness in our present day is found in the activity and violence of mobs. We both pity and condemn Bolshevism in Russia, and rightly so, while we have occurrences in our own fair land which would chill our blood with horror if they happened in Russia or in any other land, however, benighted or wanting in the essentials of orderly government. Mob violence defies all law, despises every principle and function of government, and tramples into the dust every human right. Mob violence in the South, in its beginning, most often occurred against individuals of the Negro race for attacks upon the sanctity of womanhood. Like all cancerous evils it has spread. It is now practised for other offenses, against the white race as well as the Negro race. But if the evil had remained or should be confined to the realm on which it began it is not to be tolerated by Christians or by other intelligent patriotic citizens.

"In the recent months mob violence has become more active and menacing perhaps more than at any time previous, certainly for years. As if to make their crime all the more cowardly and diabolical in many cases the mobs have concealed their identity and increased the difficulty of apprehending and punishing their members by wearing masks. It goes without saying that no true, intelligent, patriotic American can or will give support or approval to mog violence whether the mob be masked or unmasked, much less can our Baptist people and preachers think of so doing. We cannot but hope that all our pastors and churches will studiously refrain from giving approval or support to procedure that can possibly encourage disorder in any form."

The resolution of the Methodist Mission Board came up in connection with a recent lynching and was as follows:

"Resolved: That a message of commendation and approval be sent Circuit Judge Walker for his fearless and righteous exposition of the law in his charge to the grand jury at Fayette, Missouri, at the time of investigation of a recent act of mob violence committed at Columbia, Missouri, and that.

"We hereby register our sorrow over the crime of brutal murder by mobs so frequently occurring thruout our beloved land, not only because of the unrighteousness of such deeds and the defiance of the law, but also because of the reflection upon our Christianity in the eyes of pagan people."

COULD "ENFORCE" LAW FOR LYNCHING PROHIBITION; NO

(Lincoln News Service.)

Washington, D. C.—At the exact moment that Senator Carter Glass of Virginia was inveighing against Congressman Hill of Maryland for violation of the Volstead law, in permitting wine to ferment in his cellar, a Negro named Carter was being taken from the Virginia authorities, near Richmond, to be lynched.

Senator Glass was speaking before the citizens' conference in session here last week, and said: "If Congressman Hill was in Virginia, I would fine an officer who would arrest him if he allowed wine to ferment in his cellar or his parlor either. In Virginia we teach respect for the law by punishing its violators, and that is why Virginia is a law-abiding community."

If what the senator was saying was literally true, probably Carter, who was accused of attacking a white woman, might have had a trial by a jury in order that the facts could be disclosed, instead of displaying that the Virginians would rather take a life than take a drink.

MAKING A GOOD NAME FOR GEORGIA

There are two Southern States which, because of their lead in the numerous lynchings which have occurred in America during a score of years, cannot be said to possess good name enough for lawful procedure to protect. These states are Georgia and Texas —and they are almost matched by other states whose laxity in this regard is not commendable.

They must make a reputation in the regard. And it is gratifying to note that Georgia through Savannah last week made at least one move to create a reputation for lawful procedure that is as welcome as it is commendable.

The sheriff and his deputies in Savannah stopped a mob with machine guns. They demonstrated, as other cities from time to time have done, that the blood thirsty propensities of mobs can be quelled with determination and force. It wasn't even necessary for them to shoot scores of them and this condition is strange in the light of the speeches of some men whom we have heard declare that there was no way to stop a mob bent on the destruction of a brute who nearly always is black.

It seems rather that mobs like some men are willing to let diplomacy be the better part of value when the law, through its administration is determined to reign supreme.

Savannah is to be commended and Georgia is to be praised for a seeming inclination to return to the ways of civilization and enlightenment.

Lynching is criminal. Lynchers are bestial. Agreement with mobs is subversive of good government and destructive of law and order. It emperils all other forms of legislation. It ponders to savagery and renders easy the descent into a state which is but little better than the barbarism which America has been pleased to condemn in the Hun and the Turk.

No portion of America is now free from this mob mind which in its varied forms seems bound to override good government. But the case in Savannah, which can be matched by others in other southern states in which lynching is not so pronounced, seems to indicate that this mind need not be fastened forever upon the American public.

Mobs are unlawful. Each member of them realizes this and this realization itself is responsible for the ease with which they are dispersed by officers of the law who value their oaths above the esteem of the lawless.

It may be that this sheriff in Savannah will lose his place as the result of his protection of this prisoner. But it should not be the case by his action he has done more to perpetuate Georgia as a lawful institution than a thousand Hardwickes, Tillman, and others of their kind. He has helped to make a good name for Georgia and all agree that she needs one.

LYNCHING MUST GO

Dallas Express - Dallas, Texas 8-18-23

That the black stain of mob-violence should continue to disgrace the fair name of America is a thing that seems impossible. Even the most savage African tribe of the jungles can not equal in barbarity the infamous lynching record of the republic, with its churches, schools and colleges—with its hundreds of years of culture and refinement. When before in the history of the world, from sports. The conscience of the nation is numb. Not an executive has ever gone out of the way to put a stop to it and when the daily papers advertise the lynching, long before it happens, these officers of the law sneak off to quieter quarters until after it is over, or become one of the leaders in assisting the mob to get its victim without having to break the jail door. There is too much catering by the better classes to the ignoble spirit in the lower classes here in America. Indeed every man, be he president or peasant, who upholds the theory of Negro inferiority, is in his own way an aid and a better of lynching for lynching is after all but the culmination of this error. But National indifference to lynching does not minimize the horror of it. Think of the excruciating pain of a burnt finger, then imagine what it must be to have the whole body in flames. Where is the superiority in the white man if he is content to fold up his arms while fifteen million of human beings are treated worse than cattle and undergo tortures worse than death? If he is genuine, if he has the soul qualities of humanity surely he will rise up with his strong arm and demand that lynch law and mob violence, and even discrimination shall cease, and give the black man the same rights he is entitled to under the constitution.

—California Eagle.

darkest moments until now, has there been a country where its citizens are dismembered, burned alive, and every other form of atrocity which a fiendish ingenuity can devise, be visited upon them just because their skin is black, or they show any marked progress, or.. if they stand up for their rights or become saucy. We have had so much lynching that it is now accepted as one of our American institutions and

Lynchings — 1923
Discussion

Negro Press, (Virginia)

1331

LOUISIANA WOMEN DECLARE LYNCHING IS INEXCUSABLE AND WILL WORK FOR JUSTICE THROUGH STATE RELATIONS COMMITTEE

New Orleans La., April 19.— (Special.) An important step in the Southern movement for better race relations was taken in New Orleans March 21-23, when more than forty of Louisiana's prominent women—leaders in religious and civic organizations—met to study the situation, formulated a vigorous statement in behalf of good will and justice between the races, and accepted membership in the Louisiana Race Relations Committee. Declaring their belief that Christian principles offer the only solution of race problems and that the South is today the "crucial testing ground" of these principles, they pledged their support to the effort to secure for Negroes as well as for whites the protection of law and "the privileges and conditions to which they are entitled as citizens such as sanitation lighting and grading of streets, better housing conditions," and other civic advantages.

One of the strongest paragraphs in the paper is that relative to lynching which is as follows: "We register herewith our protest against the barbaric custom of lynching, which arouses violent and unchristian passions, brings law into disrepute is inhuman and brutal and unknown outside of our own land of America. We hold that no circumstances can ever justify such violent disregard for law and that in no instance is it an exhibition of chivalric consideration and honor of womanhood."

The statement lays strong and repeated emphasis on the responsbility of white people as the more advantaged race, to set the Negro a worthy example, protect him from vicious influences and encourage and help him to rise in the scale of character and conduct. The editors of newspapers are appealed to in behalf of more generous publicity for the Negro's worthy achievements, and less for stories of crime and unworthiness.

Recognizing the wisdom of conference and cooperation as a means of adjusting racial differences and promoting the general welfare, the group pledged its support to the plans developed by the Commission on Interracial Cooperation, a southern oragnization which has 800 state and county committees throughout the South. In Louisiana the state committee of which the women's group becomes a part, is headed by Prof. Leo M. Favrot of Baton Rouge.

The women constituting the group and signing the statement are: Mrs. Fred Foxley, Mrs. W. F. Weisaupt Mrs. S. A. Montgmery, Mrs. Belle O Pry Mrs. J. k. Morton. Miss Mary Cason; Mrs. Lewis Clark, Mrs. Jos Friend; Miss Vernon Nunnery; Mrs W. Marvin Brown; Mrs. W. E. Millsaps; Miss Grace Thompson; Mrs. C. F. Niebergall; Mrs. J. G. Snelling Mrs. Wm. A. Davis; Mrs. T. J. Ferguson; Mrs. H. F. Baldwin; Mrs. H. W. Glaser, Miss Ida M. Stevens; Mrs. L. Helmke.

Mrs. J. A. Alford; Mrs. J. L. Many. and Mrs. Wm. Lamb of New Orleans: Mrs. R. H. Wynn, Mrs. William Steen Mrs. H. B. Sperry Mrs. Abel Bliss and Mrs O. C. Cathey of Shreveport; Mrs. J. O. Carson; Lake Charles; Mrs. O. W. Gladden,, Alexandria; Mrs. R. E. Stearns, Mrs. J. W. Darby; Mrs. A. G. Reed Baton Rouge; Mrs. H. G. Owen LeCompte; Mrs. R. F. Harrell, Tallulah; Mrs. L. W. McKellar, Elizabeth: Mrs. J. W. Wynn, Rayne; Mrs. B. B. Purser, Amite; Mrs. J. F. Giles Springfield; Mrs. A. F. Storm Morgan City.

FINDINGS OF THE COMMITTEE OF LOUISIANA WOMEN.

(In Session in New Orleans March 21-23.)

Realizing that the entire world is facing as its most threatening and pressing issue the solution of the problem of race relations the undersigned women of Louisiana, declare our belief in the efficacy of the christian principles as the only means to insure peace and harmony and furnish a method for the final solution.

THE SOUTH IS THE TESTING-GROUND

We recognize the fact that in the order of Providence, the South has become the crucial testing-ground of these relations.

Inasmuch, as the white and colored races must continue to live together in the South, we are convinced that the relations between them should be based on Brotherhood. Both are the children of one God and Father of us all. We should accept this truth and frankly face all its implications.

We purpose to use our influence to secure law-enforcement in order that all people both black and white may have its protection. We wish to express our conviction that it is the high duty of the more-advantaged race, to set an example of good morals and high ideals in private life. Our colored fellow-countrymen are struggling up the steps of civilization. Both races are deeply injured when any member of the race that has so long preceded them on their road, stoops to weaken their morals by his own and bad moral conduct. Common descency, as well as christian consideration, requires us to remember the ancient motto of our race, "nobleness oblige." The Negro will be in an infinitely better condition if a day shall come when white men cease to lead him into the violation of the laws of both God and man.

In behalf of better observance of law of the attainment of higher standards of ethics in race contacts and especially of a solemn sense on the part of the white people of our State, of their obligations as leaders and teachers we pledge ourselves to do all within our power to make these relations conform more and more to the standards of real civilization and genuine Christianity, cooperating with the Commission on Interracial Cooperation in their splendid plans for carrying out God's will.

Foreign View Of Lynching

Norfolk Journal & Guide 3-17-23

In a local way people are always interested, more or less, in what their neighbors think of them, and they spend a lot of time gadding and gossiping in the effort to find out. It is a very laudable desire to stand well with your neighbors, but it is much more laudable to deserve to do so. That is a minor consideration with a great many of the gadders and gossips. In a broader sense, people are interested in what people of other Nations think of them. That has become more general than it used to be, thanks to printer's ink. Our great newspapers devote a lot of space to the opinions of distinguished persons of other Nations about the American people, their character and ways, their education and morals.

Sometime last year a high Turkish official, resenting American criticisms of Turkish treatment of the Christian Armenians, told us in plain terms to consider our treatment of our Negro people in the matter of lynching and burning, and a great many Americans were greatly offended, as people will be when they are in the wrong and reminded of it. The other day the world famous author and critic, G. K. Chesterton, speaking on "Prohibition," in London, said:

> "We are asked reverently to follow America's example. But they burn Negroes alive in that country, and although I do not want to be pharasaical about that, I do refuse to admit a society in which a vast crowd of people can meet together while a man in evening dress sets fire to a Negro and roasts him alive has any right to set itself up as an exemplar of morality to the world. Prohibition means sacrificing the mass of normal people to a lot of abnormal people."

As to Mr. Chesterton's views about Prohibition there is a wide divergence of opinion not only in the United States but in Great Britian; but as to his views about lynching and burning people there ought not to be any difference of opinion whatever. Even those who engage in the brutal business, or apologize for the existence of it, cannot but feel when the bloody work has been done, that they have beastialized themselves and abased their country in the estimation of mankind. When they do not feel that way about it they have lost the human feeling which makes the whole world kin. No person who engages in the lynching and burning of a human being can ever feel the same again. His conscience will not allow him to do so.

The American people should make mob law and the burning of human beings impossible. If they do not do so they will lose their self-respect and that of enlightened mankind.

The Cycle of Mob Justice in the South

[illegible] (Richmond, Va.) St. Luke Herald

A mob of King and Queen County or the Commonwealth of Virginia has slain a Negro named Horace Carter, charged with assault upon [illegible] white woman alleged to have occured a year ago. The Coroner's Jury called to investigate the mob's crime returned the following verdict at the inquest: "That Horace Carter, colored who was killed Friday night on the road between West Point and King and Queen Courthouse, came to his death as a result of bullet wounds inflicted by persons unknown to this Jury."

According to the reports given by Sheriff Allen, guns were immediately leveled at them, and they were told that the prisoner was to be handed over. Without having an opportunity to even reach for their guns, the officers were forced to comply with the demand, and the Negro was removed from the car, begging, it was said, that he be not harmed without a chance to prove his innocence.

As he stepped to the ground, and without saying a word, the members of the mob are said to have turned their guns from the officers in the machine to the Negro and opened fire. They immediately departed, leaving the dead man on the ground with the handcuffs still on his wrists and his legs bound. Six or seven shots were fired into his body.

The strip of road upon which the lynching took place was so darkly wooded that the officers were unable to recognize any of the members of the mob, and they could give no clue as to their possible identity, officials at the courthouse stated over long-distance telephone after the inquest.

Nothing but an accusing finger of wilful negligence points to the lawful and constituted authorities of King and Queen County. Why did they wait until night to pass along a dark road with a Negro accused of such a crime against a white woman in the South? Why did they not bring him to Richmond, or take some other road to the Courthouse? Then, again, Why is this lynching deferred for a whole year? Is anybody fool enough to think that the public is not raising reasonable questions about this high-handed outlawry? Does any reader think that a lynching bee could swarm without making some noise of their purposes in a County that one could almost jump across by taking a good running start? Then the lame tale, "the officers had no time in which to reach for their guns. What is the use of carrying guns?

Was not Carter on his way to stand trial before a white judge and lawyers and jurors? Was not his legal conviction sure to follow? Then why this hurry on the part of an overaweing mob of ten men? We suppose that the officers in charge of the prisoner must have turned blue at sight of the guns of the mobbers expecting all to be dead in three shakes of a sheep's tale if they had not handed over the helpless Negro declaring his innocence and begging for a chance of a trial.

This is all too thin . There is something dead in Amsterdam. But we are not surprised that this cycle of mob justice rolled around to Virginia. There is no telling where it will stop next. This lawless death is another eloquent plea for the passage of the Dyer Anti-Mob Bill.

Besmirching a Good Record

From the (Norfolk) Virginian Pilot

Ten unidentified men in King and Queen County have placed a black mark against the name of Virginia in the 1923 lynching record. By wantonly taking a prisoner from county officers and shooting him to death in total disregard of all law, they have blotted a page which might otherwise have been clear. The crime with which the prisoner was charged merited the extreme penalty. But he had been arrested and was on his way to jail in the custody of the sheriff and his deputies. There was every reason to expect that he would have received proper punishment as soon as his guilt had been properly established before a judge and jury. For this orderly process of law the members of the group of lynchers—it could not be called a mob—substituted violence. They preferred to disregard the law and order on which the security of society rests and to snatch the Negro away from his legal captors and deal with him themselves.

For this sort of savagery there is no extenuation. King and Queen County bears the odium of having besmirched a State record from which the citizens of the commonwealth had begun to draw a certain decent satisfaction. The year 1923, as far as official records go, had passed in Virginia without a lynching. Since 1904, the State has averaged less than one lynching a year. The average for the other States possessing large colored populations has been very much higher. While it was, at best a melancholy distinction to be less savage than other States, it was a record in which the State was beginning to take pride. The King and Queen performance takes that pride down several pegs. It is an outrage which may properly inspire the King and Queen authorities to hunt out the crimnals and bring them into light of day. If it is not yet approved American practice to punish men who commit murder as members of mobs—witness the immunity of the principals at Herrin and Mer Rouge—it ought to serve some useful purpose to make public the names of men capable, in the name of "justice," of shooting to death an untried and unconvicted man while he lay on the ground handcuffed and hobbled.

Mobbing the Mobbers

The New York World directs attention to the fact that as the wave of Ku Klux Klanism appears to be growing less intense, and is fading away in the Southern States, it is gaining headway in the States of the North and Middle West. But is it a fact? Anyhow there appears to be much life and activity in the North and Middle States, with such a growing grip on the politics of Indiana as to make both the old parties feel funny. In New Jersey there is feverish activity with several Republican office seekers standing high in their communities "caught in the act" of consorting with midnight gatherings of the order.

But mobbing mobbers keeps pace with Klan activities in the North. At Carnegie, Pa., New Castle, Del., and at Perth Amboy, N. J., mobs have recently broken up Klan meetings and made it disstressing for Klansmen, some of whom have been killed and many of whom have had their persons more or less disfigured in the rough handling. The police power of those places appears to be unable to protect the Klansmen, who have been invoking the law and offering rewards for the apprehension of their enemies. And of course the responsible newspapers denounce both the Klansmen and their enemies for their lawlessness.

Lawlessness breeds lawlessness. There is plenty of room in this country for all of us, and there is plenty of law to protect all of us in his life and property, and there is no occasion for any citizen to appeal from the law, but every occasion for all citizens to appeal to the law, and the safety and happiness of the Nation depend upon the appeal to instead of from lawful authority.

Virginia's Shame

Virginia, after a year's respite has had chalked up another lynching on her eschutcheon. Alas! We had begun to believe that the Old Dominion, the soil that first felt the tread of the feet of the country's settlers who came to this land in search of the star of liberty and to live under its protecting illumination, had thrown off this barbarous and inhuman practice and emerged into the light of justice, fair-play and higher civilization.

Ten unknown men are accused of perpetrating this crime against the fair name of our Sovereignty. Ten men are accused of implanting again this ignominous spot on Virginia's star. But the guilt does not end with those blood thirsty ten. It spreads to all Virginians and to white Americans everywhere. Lynching could not survive in this country under a righteous national indignation aroused against it. No group of men is mightier than the great public and few evils can withstand a sweeping public condemnation.

Good white people who oppose and condemn lynching pass the buck by alluding to it as a crime common to ignorant bigots and a low type of white men. This might ease their conscience, but it does not lift from their shoulders the responsibility. All of society is affected by the actions of a part of society. This is inescapable. When strong and virile Christianity fails to rise up and strike down lawlessness, it protrudes its insidious fangs into the life stream of civilization and pollutes the whole body of human society. No man escapes its contamination.

Governor Trinkle has asked for the arrest and conviction of the lynchers. It can be done, but we fear it will never be done. Their is no public clamor for it. The churches are busy with prohibition, or missions in China, Japan and Asia, while America wallows in the gutter of barbarous and inhuman practices against human beings.

Lynchings — 1923
Discussion

White Press, (Alabama).

1298

LYNCHING CONDEMNED

Alabama Educators Sign Resolutions Recently Circulated Widely

Resolutions recently circulated through the southern states and signed by many presidents of colleges and other education officials, condemn lynching and call on legislatures for more stringent laws against the evil.

Names of the following Alabamians appear on the resolution: John W. Abercrombie, George H. Denny, James J. Doster, Speight Dowell, and G. E. Snavely.

The resolution follows:

"We, the undersigned, engaged in the work of education, earnestly appeal to all citizens to exert their influence constantly and actively in condemnation of the crime of lynching.

"We furthermore urge upon our state, legislators and executives to enact, if necessary, and persistently to enforce, such laws as will tend to put a stop to this species of lawlessness."

Florence Ala. News JUL 5 1923

According to the latest statistics there is a marked improvement in the lynching record of the South. The first six months of the present year show a decrease over the same period of last year of some thirty lynchings. That is good. We sincerely trust the improvement may continue. Determined action in several instances recently to prevent the lust of the mob in finding satisfaction in outraging both the dignity of law and public sentiment shows that we are moving in the right direction. And the very best part of the statistical report lies in the fact that Alabama was among the states wh[illegible]such outrage has been com[illegible]ing the last six months. [illegible]make an extra effort to main[illegible]record for the balance of the [illegible] whole year without a lynch[illegible] improve our standing with [illegible]de world..

WOMEN'S MISSIONARY COUNCIL CALLS ON PRESS AND PULPIT OF COUNTRY TO ASSIST IN STAMPING OUT LYNCHINGS

Resolutions Urge Leaders in Southern States to Join Forces For Suppression of Mob Violence; Plan Provides For Study of Conditions by Society

MOBILE, ALA., April 10.—A resolution calling upon the people of all southern states and upon the pulpit and the press to unite in an effort to stamp out lynching was adopted by the Woman's Missionary Council of the Methodist church in session here late this afternoon. The adoption of the resolution followed an earnest address by Dr. W. W. Alexander, of Atlanta, chairman of the Methodist committee on inter-racial cooperation. The resolution was offered, it was stated, in view of the fact that the anti-lynching bill had failed to pass in the last congress.

Mrs. F. T. Stephens, of Columbus, Miss., who is serving as acting president of the council since the death of Miss Belle H. Bennett several months ago, was elected president of the council at its session here today. Mrs. Stephens has been presiding over the sessions here. Her election was made unanimous after the balloting showed that she had 61 out of 85 votes.

The next meeting place of the council will be selected at the session tonight. The conference will close on Wednesday, after being in session for a week.

The resolution offered by Dr. W. W. Alexander, of Atlanta, Ga., chairman of the Methodist committee on an inter-racial cooperation project calling on the people of the southern states, the pulpit and the press to suppress lynching was as follows:

"Whereas, the defeat of the Dyer anti-lynching bill, which provided for federal control of lynching, has thrown the whole responsibility back upon each state for removing this hideous crime, therefore,

"Be it resolved, that the Woman's Missionary Council of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, in annual session at Mobile, Alabama, April 4-11, 1923, do now demand of the authorities of the several states that they make good their claim by proving their competency to abolish mob violence and lynching.

"That we assume our responsibility as citizens for the protection of human life, and hereby call upon all the people of all the states, upon the pulpit and the press, to join in an insistent agitation against this barbarous practice."

The plan adopted to attain the objects for which the resolution was adopted provides for a study of lynching on the part of each local society, for an effort to secure in each state such special legislation as may be needed to prevent mob violence, for active cooperation with the officials in bringing to justice any one who may indulge in lynchings for the continued effort to develop in each community such a spirit as will make mob violence impossible, and, to this end, cooperate with other religious organizations. Dr. Alexander declared that lynching is a disease prevalent in some communities and in some states and that the malady spreads very rapidly. He refuted the accusation that itis common to the old South, or of the best class of Southern people, stating that, in the older southern communities there is less, or none of such law violation. He also pointed out that lynchings are less prevalent in the black belt than in sections where there is a sparse population of negroes. Dr. Alexander also said that lynchings are not necessary; if they were they would never have been practically discontinued in South Carolina, he stated. The speaker asserted that, although leaders and members of mobs claim to be protecting white women when committing mob lawlessness, the statistics show that only one-fourth of the lynchings perpetrated are for crimes involving women.

As some of the remedies for lynchings, Dr. Alexander recommended that first, attention be paid to feeble minded negro children, as well as white ones, that jails be supplied with both riot guns and water hose and a sheriff with nerve enough to use both of them, turn out all officers who have been in office five years, though in doing so you may lose some good ones.

Mobile, Ala., Register

JUL 31 1923

THE YAZOO LYNCHING.

One such affair as that near Yazoo City, Mississippi, Sunday morning, offsets much the Southern people are trying to do to improve the interracial relations. The lynchers and burners do not properly represent the South, but inevitably will be declared true representatives by all who make capital out of the mob treatment of the negroes. Besides this, it is cruel and unusual punishment the mob inflicts, and, therefore, contrary to our laws, even if the mob were authorized to punish, which it is not.

Now, here is the point of the whole matter. We live under a government of law, a government designed by ourselves and laws which we as a people enact. This government is supposed to be adequate and these laws to be the outcome of the best of human judgment. If we, the makers as well as administrators of the government and laws, defy the government and scout the laws—we not only set a very bad example to persons less intelligent and less obligated than ourselves, but we actually, for a time, cast aside the garment of civilization and fall back into the era when there was no government and no law, no protection for life and property, and every man's hand was against his neighbor.

It is not as if there were no other way of meeting the difficult situation. There is a legal and orderly way, and a sure way, which the people in their wisdom have provided. There is no reason why this way should not have been used in the case under consideration.

Lynchings – 1923
Discussion

White Press, (Arkansas)

1306

Graphic

PINE BLUFF ARK COMMERCIAL
FEBRUARY 9, 1923

LYNCHING AND OTHER FORMS OF MURDER

Fifteen states haven't had a lynching in the last ten years, according to a statement given out this week by a bureau which makes a business of compiling this sort of information, watching the southern newspapers and evidently overlooking some of the others.

A Commission on Interracial Relations, the National Society for the Advancement of Colored People and other organizations have issued divers comment since these statements were given out.

The trend of the comment seems to be that things are getting better because lynchings are fewer, and that those fifteen states must be necessarily better states than the other 33 where there have been lynchings.

These commentators seems to believe that a lynching is the worst form of murder. A labor war in which hundreds are killed, many of them tortured to death, isn't half so revolting to them, as the fact that 30 people in the whole United States were lynched, though most of them—the 30—deserved to be killed.

One of the states which is honored with a white ribbon, denoting that its citizens had not lynched a man in ten years, is Minnesota. It's people, one commentator says, must be a higher order of people than those of Arkansas and Georgia and Illinois. In Minneapolis Saturday night before last a man went into a barbershop where there was the usual Saturday night rush. He finally got into a chair and then called for a haircut, shave, massage, shampoo and several other things. Other men, waiting their turn, immediately became indignant. They declared that no man had the right to call for more than a shave on Saturday night, so they jerked the offender from the chair, took him out into the street and beat him to death.

Another state that reported no lynchings was New Jersey. In New Jersey there is one continuous wharf from Edgewater to the lower end of Jersey City and some more wharves further down. A few months ago there was a longshoremen's strike in New Jersey. While it is true that the longshoreman doesn't represent the mentally best in New Jersey there are just as many longshoremen in New Jersey as there are lynchers in Georgia. Tse longshoremen held out for a time and then some of them, fearful of losing out in their labor war, went back to work. Those who remained loyal to the union were very properly indignant, so they went along the wharves and laid a number of traps. Ancient boards which for years had stood the wear and tear of trucks, were torn up and replaced with camouflaged beaver board. Joists were sawed in two, piling were cut out. When the strikebreakers came to work the next day there was an accident. Before they could make a search in the water for the unfortunates a few more tumbled in. The workers called it a day and everybody was called off the wharves until repairs could be made. That night the shipping companies stationed guards on the wharves and a few minutes after midnight some of the erstwhile workers crept up to them and pushed them into the river. Then the strikebreakers got mad and threw a few of their tormentors in. The total casualties were never ascertained. But New Jersey never had a lynching, and therefore is a model state.

Russellville Ark Democrat
Feb 15 1923

That the lynching evil is steadily being reduced, both as to numbers and area, and that its eradication is only a matter of years, is the substance of a statement given out by the Commission of International Cooperation after a careful study of the lynching record for the past forty years. During that period lynchings have occurred in 44 states, in as many as 33 in a single year and in an average of 21 states a year. In 1921 only 13 states had lynchings and in 1922 only 10. The number of victims has also decreased steadily from the high mark of 255 in 1892 to 57 last year, the last figure being only about half the annual average of 109 for the 40-year period.

Lynchings—1923
Discussion

White Press, Connecticut
1277

1277

NEW HAVEN CONN UNION
MAY 4, 1923

The lynching of a negro at Columbia, Mo., last Sunday, had in it one element which added much to the ordinary ugliness of such horrors. Although President Loeb of the University of Missouri, has issued a statement that "as far as my information goes, no university students took an active part in the lynching", the fact remains that at least a passive part was taken by many of the students and the disgusting and alarming thing about it is that girl students were plentifully represented in the crowd that watched the ringleaders tie the noose about the victim's neck and toss his body over the bridge. This exemplifies, as scarcely anything else could, the demoralizing, brutalizing effect of the lynching habit upon the whites of both sexes; and it was only a few days ago that several organizations of women in Louisiana and other Southern States were moved to pass resolutions strongly condemning this hideous form of mob justice.

Lynchings—1923
Discussion.

White Press, (Florida).

1305

MIAMI FLA. HERALD
JANUARY 30, 1923.

HERE'S ANOTHER CRANK MOTORIST.

Every once in a while The Herald lamps, as the lamented B. L. T. would say, a newspaper story of the experiences of some northern man in the south, and this paper delights in telling how a certain class of people feel toward Florida and the south when they visit it in the winter. The humor in the complaints, thus dug up, is apparent to every person in the south and every one of the hundreds of thousands of visitors who come to Florida every year and who enjoy themselves while here.

A certain Burril G. Cone, of Northampton, Massachusetts, gives a reporter of the Springfield, Massachusetts, Republican, an interview on his alleged experiences while motoring in the south.

He claims to have found bad roads in the south immediately after leaving Washington. After that he found that the hills were steep and at the foot of each a creek spanned by a toll bridge, and his thrifty New England soul revolted at having to pay for the privilege of using the bridge. He says that people in the south do not use the ordinary tire chains, to travel in the mud, but are obliged to use log chains, so deep is the wet clay and marshy land. On one short stretch of road he saw "hundreds of cars tipped over into creeks where they had slid down embankments and were left there by their unfortunate owners. "The Dixie highway," he says, "is of brick and only eight feet wide, and motorists when they meet another car, are obliged to climb an eight-inch curb and get out into the sand."

The most lurid story told by this easily discouraged Massachusetts traveller was that he saw "in one section of Florida the bodies of three Negroes strung up to poles. All Negroes had been ordered to leave the county and these three had refused to go." Another story was one in which he tells of a night attack made upon his camp, but which was frustrated by his wife firing a revolver into the air. Then the veracious chronicler of all these incidents says that, "The next day Mr. Cone asked a judge at Abbeyville, Wilcox county, what would have been done to him if he had shot one of the Negroes. He was told that nothing would have happened except that he would not have been allowed to leave the state for two days. The judge further added facetiously that if he had killed six negroes, the state would have paid him a bounty of $10. Mr. Cone then began to wonder why he would have been held in the state two days if he had shot but one, and came to the conclusion that it would have been so that the town and state officials could have feted him during that time."

The erstwhile visitor so mixes his geography that it is difficult to understand whether this last incident occurred in Georgia or Florida.

Of course, the gentleman from the Old Bay State did not see three negroes strung up to a pole in Florida or anywhere else. No county in Florida has ordered negroes to leave. Recently in one small section of the western side of the state there was some trouble between whites and colored, but not a negro was hung during the outbreak, and the gentleman evidently did not get over to that side of the state, if he got no farther than the eight foot brick highways, which are all located, if there are any that narrow, in the extreme northeastern portion of the state. Furthermore, The Herald ventures to say that his alleged conversation with a Georgia judge never took place, and that he was merely filling the newspaper reporter with guff when he related his story of a trip to the south.

Thousands of automobiles are daily arriving in this city from over the very route he claims to have taken. The cars, many of them costly machines, show not the slightest indication of having had rough passage. The thousands of visitors who drive to South Florida are loud in their praises of the roads in this state and have no complaint to make of the Georgia highways.

Mr. Burril has obtained a little cheap notoriety, which he could not have obtained had he told the truth about this section of the country. Such disgruntled and easily displeased people are a nuisance and if their stories are not at once flatly denied, prove a bad advertisement for Florida.

MIAMI FLA. HERALD
JANUARY 23, 1923

DIFFICULT TO SUPPRESS.

We do not presume to question the integrity of the jury that brought in a verdict of not guilty against the five coal mine strikers who were accused of the Herrin mine murders, nor can there be any reflection upon the court in which the important case was tried. We cannot know whether the case was entirely clear as against the accused or whether the state of feeling in Herrin overawed the jurymen in such a measure that their judgment was biased. We are forced to believe that the verdict was a righteous one and that the men were not guilty.

But somebody, if the frightful stories that came from Herrin some months ago were even approximately correct, must have committed many most atrocious homicides, for we know that many men were killed in an attack upon the mines there.

The state of Illinois is not relieved of the imputation that it will not or cannot punish its criminals, by the outcome of this trial.

If all this had taken place in the south, there would be a general outcry, as witness the columns of denunciation in northern papers against things southern, as is a result of the unfortunate occurrences in Mer Rouge, Louisiana.

Many of the papers of the north seem to include the entire south in their denunciations, forgetting that the Omaha, East St. Louis and Herrin riots or lynchings or whatever they were, caused many times the deaths that the Louisiana murders caused. And no reparation or punishment has been secured for any of those horrors perpetrated in northern states.

Of course the fact that a lynching on a wholesale scale occurs in one state is not to be attributed to all the states of the section, nor is one lynching in one state any excuse for another in another state.

All of these outbursts are the result of deep-seated hate, bursting forth in flame on occasion and men's passions, for a time, run wild. The only remedy, the only permanent remedy, will be found only as civilization advances to that point where all people object to and oppose that form of retribution.

In view of the results of the Herrin trial, for we may well assume that if convictions could not be secured in the first instance, the other cases will either be dropped or result in acquittals, northern papers are not given much ground on which to keep up their continual criticism of the south when an occasional lynching takes place. The south does not excuse or condone lynching and it is doing, as in the Louisiana case, all that it can do to suppress the crime everywhere.

JACKSONVILLE FLA. Times-Union
JUN 8 - 1923

ANOTHER LYNCHING.

And now comes another lynching! And in Palm Beach—progressive, enlightened, flourishing Palm Beach!

News reports of the lynching received here Thursday had not a word to say whether the negro lynched was guilty, whether he was identified as one of the men who battled with the slain policeman. Perhaps that identification did occur. It shows the trend of things, however, when even the news reporters did not consider it worth while mentioning that fact.

For herein is the viciousness of the lynching beast. He not only represents anarchy in taking the law in his own hands, but what is more heart-rending, he does not take into account innocence or guilt. Aroused by blood lust, he nabs the first victim he can lay hands on and riddles him with bullets.

A fine exhibition!

For savages!

How long will the real manhood and womanhood of Florida permit savages to misrepresent them in the eyes of the world?

JACKSONVILLE, FLA. Times-Union
JUN 25 1923

SAVANNAH AND THE MOB

The recent episode in Savannah, in which a mob endeavored to prove its power over and above the law, culminated in a notable victory for law and order. This victory is due entirely to the efficiency of the officers charged with safeguarding the people, under the protection of the law, which is for everybody, those charged with crime and their accusers, as well. As the incident occurred only a few days ago, when a mob surrounded the jail to which had been committtd an alleged law violator, the intention being to secure the prisoner and lynch him, the details are generally familiar and need not be recalled, except insofar as is necessary to express the very highest praise that can be given for law observance, even when such observance is compelled.

Savannah has given convincing evidence of the fact that mobs can be controlled, but only when officers of the law assert their power. In the incident referred to, Sheriff Dixon met the mob with firmness and calm words. He was not heeded. Then he called to his aid the city fire department and streams of water were turned on the rioters and would-be lynchers. Still they refused to disperse. Solicitor-General Hartridge tried argument for law and order, but the mob would not listen to reason. In response to a call, Governor Hardwick ordered state troops to the scene, and orders were given that if it became necessary they should "shoot to kill." Fortunately, only a few volleys, fired into

the air, to indicate that the troopers were prepared for business, were needed to convince the mob that the state and the city meant to enforce the law, protect the prisoner in question, and prevent unlawful execution, without fair trial, of one accused of crime. The show of authority won, and the mob dispersed.

Thus has Savannah, and Georgia, established itself in the esteem of good citizens everywhere. Commendation, that has been earned by the neighbor city and state, comes from far and near. Thus, the New York Herald, commenting on the affair and its gratifying outcome, says: "Savannah, Georgia, has given convincing proof that mobs bent upon jail delivery and lynching can be checked when the authorities hold fast for law and order. Officials all along the line, from firemen and patrolmen up to the solicitor-general of the state, did their duty through five tense hours, and finally put down with comparatively few casualties an uprising that might easily have cost many lives."

Further favorable comment is expressed along the same line, by the Mobile Register, which says: "The prompt and effective methods taken by Governor Hardwick, of Georgia, prevented what might have been a lynching in the fine old city of Savannah, noted for its culture and the high quality of its citizenship. * * * The experience of Savannah shows the truth of what has been often said by Southern newspapers, that lynchings can be prevented when the officials make serious effort to prevent them."

It is a sincere pleasure to commend the Georgia officials in the matter referred to, and at the same time call the attention of law officers everywhere to what can be done, under circumstances, similar to those that were forced on Savannah, that call for assertion of the power and majesty of the law in order to overcome those who now and then try to "take the law into their own hands."

Lynchings—1923.
Discussions.

White Press, (Georgia).

1472

Cochran Ga. Journal

AUG 23 1923

Mob Law Must Be Curbed If Civilization Survives

Another negro has been lynched, and our county and city is charged up with another deplorable affair.

From the evidence, a negro convict who was a trusty went to a certain house to get water from the well in the yard, which was located near the kitchen window. According to reports, the negro on one occasion asked the lady for some soda, on another occasion he asked for potatoes. He came again and made an insulting proposition and started in the house after her, when she ran and escaped from him.

In the face of these facts, which were stated by this lady, the first natural impulse for those interested would have been to have shot the negro down. This would have been natural (whether right or not) and if it had been done the matter in all probability would have been ended.

Up to the time the jail was broken open the majesty of the law was strictly adherred to, by the officers. It is even reported that a mob met the Sheriff who had the prisoner, but was induced to let him carry him to jail. But now comes the tragedy and disgrace to our county and city. At eleven o'clock at night a band of masked men gathered around the jail and demanded the keys, and failing to get them, they went to the City Power Plant and made the negro night-watchman give them some tools and they hammered on the side of the jail for two hours before they got the prisoner, and quietly drove out of the city.

A city of 2,500 people lay slumbering in the early hours of the night while a masked mob pounded at their jail for two hours unmolested, took away a prisoner and hung him to a tree ten or eleven miles in the country, and just as the Sheriff says he drove in from Eastman in his car and saw them crossing the streets in front of the Baptist Church.

Suffice it to say that we see no particular necessity just at this time to enter into a long dessertation on the majesty of the law, the deplorable condition of our country, the fact that civilization is threatened, that mob law and masked bands of criminals are running riot all over this land until many people are becoming alarmed. We have been hammering on this same old line at frequent intervals for a long time. Sometimes we get discouraged.

It is very evident that the prisoner could and should have been carried to some other place for safe keeping. This would have prevented the lynching and given the mob time to cool off. We have no sympathy for a rapist or would be rapist. They should be killed, but by due process of law. The mob has no right to kill. It is an awful thing for a community to be at the mercy of an unbridled mob. No use to say that the mob kills for only one crime. The records show too plainly that they often kill for slight offenses. If not checked, they will go from bad to worse and no man's life will be safe. If some attempt is not made to curb the mob passion in this country, the time will arrive when it will be unsafe for a man to stand up for the right. If the people don't demand that the officers of the law perform their duty the time is going to arrive in this country when we will have no protection, our lives and property will be unsafe and we will be at the mercy of the thugs and murderers.

We stand unreservedly and unqualifiedly for the majesty of the law. We condemn mob law with all the force of our nature, and don't hesitate to say that it is by far the most dangerous element threatening the civilization of our country.

Dispatch

FORDELE, GA.

AUG 20 1923

SOMEBODY'S GOING TO PAY

We are not trying specially to be mean about it, but last night's fireworks in Macon mean nothing in the direction of the real stamping out of mob violence in Bibb county. If the people of Bibb county want to clean up with this business—honestly want to make a good job of it—let them start in the sheriff's office. If they will separate that office from the various organizations that work by night, they will have very little more of mob activities.

It is a matter of great pride for us to be able to point to an officer of the law as fearless and firm in the administering of his duty in enforcing respect for the law. On the contrary, it engenders disorder of the rankest sort when the sheriff and his chief deputy, or either of them, go slack in the performance of their duties.

Lynching and beating up people by night is the direct result of the hell-raising masked and unmasked klansmen, guardians of liberty, and dozen other types of night operators who take the law into their own hands in Macon and Bibb county. The klan cannot escape responsibility by saying this is none of its work. Were there not a member of that organization in the operations, still we could say with all manner of truth that the klan pointed the way—showed the ruffians and the outlaws how to do it. If a klansmen's gang could beat up some body—could lynch somebody—and escape with it, of course, it would be easy for the real outlaws to do it. That's natural—that's what the press of the country which stands for law and order has been telling the klansmen all the time.

In the sheriff's office in Macon the whip hold of politics in Macon and Bibb county is held. That's so—no matter what statesman of a different mind about it have to say. Those who hold the whip hand want to retain it—that's natural. But in the meantime—in the meantime—these hell-raisers who are doing what they please, when they please, regardless of law, of court, of respectable and decent citizenship—regardless of the safety of the future—are going full tilt in every direction at what they will. They are at that unrestrained fully aware that there is no person connected with the enforcement of the law that would interfere because of the political effect.

Let them go on in that corrupt conduct. Somebody's going to pay—somebody's going to pay!

Macon, Ga. TELEGRAPH

SEP 5 - 1923

FLORIDA'S ANSWER

From the Tampa Tribune.

THE Spartanburg (S. C.) Journal, one of the best-edited newspapers in the South, with the able Major Hemphill as its editorial chieftain, joins with The Tribune in denouncing the floggings which have disgraced Macon, Georgia, and in the hope that the floggers will be speedily dealt with by law in that State. The Journal is extremely doubtful, however, if Georgia, "with the record of nearly 500 lynchings in that State in the last thirty years or so, and not a single participant in any of these fearful crimes punished by the law or even bothering his head about making any defense of his murderous course," will make "any serious or successful effort towards the punishment of the floggings at Macon."

Not content with this indictment of the State of Georgia, the Journal editor feels called upon to indulge in a "dig" at Florida, in this fashion:

There is an old saying that "people who live in glass houses should not throw stones," and in the spirit of so suggestive a proverb our Tampa contemporary will pardon us for asking it what adequate punishment has been administered to the brutes in Florida who were caught a few weeks ago practicing peonage in the great State of Florida—a condition of slavery it was charged by comparison with which "the institution" could be regarded fairly as providing a rather luxurious existence.

Does the Tribune happen to know what has been done with the peonage system in Florida, how many of the convicts farmed out to companies or individuals died of cruel treatment in peonage, what accounting the state has kept of all these matters, and how it happened that so little was said about the whole infamous business by the virtuous press of Florida up to the time an unlucky stranger from one of the distant Western states was beaten to death or died of injuries inflicted in an official flogging?

Major Hemphill surely is aware of the fact that Florida has done everything in its power to atone for the abuses which for a time, existed in this state and to prevent their recurrence. He must know that the last Florida legislature abolished the convict lease system and prohibited the use of the lash, in any form or manner, upon any prisoner in this state. He must know that the officials who were found to be guilty of "railroading" men to convict camps were removed from office and that they received the condemnation of practically the entire state, people and press. He must know that the Wisconsin corporation owning and operating the camp where the Tabert crime was committed has been so severely condemned by enlightened public sentiment that it has been practically driven out of the state and that it is a defendant in a damage suit for a large amount brought by the parents of Tabert. He must know that the whipping boss who inflicted upon Tabert the beating that caused his death was convicted by a jury of manslaughter and is now under sentence of twenty years in the penitentiary. If there is anything else the people or the officials of Florida can do, perhaps Major Hemphill will point it out to us.

The Journal inquires why "so little was said by the virtuous press of Florida" up to the time of the Tabert case. The Journal is hereby advised, if it did not know it before, that the Tribune has conducted a campaign against the lease system for fifteen years or more and that other papers of the state joined in that campaign, succeeding, several years ago, in securing action by the legislature abolishing the leasing of state convicts. The county lease system continued, however, until this year, when the disclosures incident to the Tabert case forced similar action by the legislature on county leases. All through this long-continued campaign, The Tribune has given the fullest publicity to the iniquities of the system.

The attempt of the Spartanburg Journal to cast aspersions on both the people and the press of Florida is far-fetched and ignores the facts. If the Tribune had the desire or the inclination, it might indulge in some rather unpleasant observations on observance of law and order in South Carolina—but it has better employment for its time and attention.

Statesboro Ga. x
News
JUL 5 - 1923

DALTON, GA. News.

JUN 28 1923

Savannah Points the Way.

That was a great law vindication in Savannah last week when constituted authorities stood at bay a mob that was bent on lynching a negro. It goes to show that when a sheriff, or other official is determined to hold his prisoner, it is almost impossible for a mob to carry out its plans. There is nothing in the world a mob is more afraid of than an officer who is not afraid to shoot and who shoots to kill when it is necessary.

It is true one member of the mob was killed—and this is unfortunate—but this Savannah affair will have a deterrent effect on people who make up mobs in Georgia.

In inveighing against the lynching evil, the newspapers and law-abiding people generally are not sympathizing with those guilty of unspeakable crimes. They speak simply in defense of law, urging speedy trials and quick executions. When a criminal is lynched by a mob it is not the criminal alone who is lynched but the law, and this has a tendency to create disrespect for all law. If one law is ignored, and a criminal lynched with impunity, then the law-breaking element concludes that other laws may be treated after the same fashion.

What was done in Savannah last week will have a good effect in this state, and if the same rule is carried out at other points it will not be long before lynching parties will be over in this state, and in the south, as for that matter.

A fact that has been noted many times, but which may be emphasized again, is that, as a rule, people who take part the leading part in lynchings are themselves criminals at heart, and often are under indictment charged with serious crimes. The Citizen does not believe the best elements of our civilization are connected with mobs, or lend them aid and sympathy. In only a few instances is this the case.

Speedy trials, quick execution of the law, and repulsed mobs will place our god state on a very much higher plane in a short time.

The Savannah affair points the way.

WILL STOP LYNCHING.

An editorial writer in a Boston paper, posing as a friend of the colored race, pretends to see in the migration of the negro from the south a sure way to curb the crime of lynching.

The writer is almost absolutely correct in his conclusions, but he is far wrong in his process of reasoning. His theory is that the white people of the south will be driven to a more cordial treatment of the negro through fear of losing him as a citizen; and that, through this higher esteem of him, they will cease to summarily deal with him as is too ofter done.

The great mass of southern people appreciate the negro for all he is worth; they recognize hin as an industrial factor of importance; they depend largely upon him to keep going the wheels of certain industries, particularly in agriculture. In spite of all this appreciation, they cannot tolerate the specific crime for which he is generally lynched. More than that, they cannot bring themselves to regard the colored race as in any way entitled to social equality with the white race. However many of them migrate to the north, the south is not going to change its estimate of the negro socially—more paricularly the negro who continues to do the thing that is so highly offensive to the southern white people.

Lynching in the south will be reduced by this migration movement exactly in proportion as the criminal negro joins the movement. When they have all gone north and there are no longer the crimes which cause white men to take the law into their hands, then lynching will absolutely stop.

The Times is not in sympathy with the spirit which impels lynch law. It hold that mob voilence is in its effect almost as a great a crime against society as the crime which is the excuse for mobs. Yet it does not concede that the white men of the south are going to be driven into submission to the negroes' misconduct through fear that he will move away. The southern white man cannot be intimidated in any such way. The quicker the negro gets that into his reason-tank, the better it will be for him. If he wants lynching to stop, he knows the one great way to stop it—that is, to lead the upright life.

Second Ga + Record
AUG 30 1923

ABOUT GEORGIA MOBS.

The reign of mob violence in Georgia not only demands the governor's immediate and uncompromising attention but challenges the public conscience of this state to a full cooperation in seeing that the guilty parties are brought to full justice without fear or favor or intimidation.

This spirit of terroism on the part of irresponsible people has done more to injure the state than anything else, not excepting the boll weevil.

Not only has it injured the state materially but it has thrown over it a shadow of contempt in other sections of the country, that it does not deserve, for the overwhelming majority of the Georgia people are law abiding and are not to be judged by a few, who have no regard for law or order or for the sacred institutions of government.

There is nothing more reprehensible than the mob that would tear down the system of jurisprudence, make mockery of the courts and "regulate" by a code of violations that make laws as but scraps of paper.

Georgia has been cursed by mob tactics, and by terrorists. The time has come, in the name of law and decency and in the name of manhood of the outstanding citizenry, to put a stop to it, if it takes every arm of the state government to do it, and if it creates an upheaval akin to revolution.

No people can live in contentment and prosperity unless the judiciary is maintained with that integrity that means the protection of society and the safeguarding of life and limb.

Two wrongs do not make a right. The courts are amply able to punish the guilty. The mob is a reflection upon the judgment as well as upon the conscience of a people.

Mob "regulating" in Georgia must stop. This is no time to temporize with terrorists. The lyncher is a murderer in the sight of God and man and ameanable to law as such.—Atlanta Constitution.

Lynchings—1923.
Discussions.

White Press, Georgia.

1471

Cochran Ga
Journal
AUG 23 1923

Mob Law Must Be Curbed If Civilization Survives

Another negro has been lynched, and our county and city is charged up with another deplorable affair.

From the evidence, a negro convict who was a trusty went to a certain house to get water from the well in the yard, which was located near the kitchen window. According to reports, the negro on one occasion asked the lady for some soda, on another occasion he asked for potatoes. He came again and made an insulting proposition and started in the house after her, when she ran and escaped from him.

In the face of these facts, which were stated by this lady, the first natural impulse for those interested would have been to have shot the negro down. This would have been natural (whether right or not) and if it had been done the matter in all probability would have been ended.

Up to the time the jail was broken open the majesty of the law was strictly adherred to, by the officers. It is even reported that a mob met the Sheriff who had the prisoner, but was induced to let him carry him to jail. But now comes the tragedy and disgrace to our county and city. At eleven o'clock at night a band of masked men gathered around the jail and demanded the keys, and failing to get them, they went to the City Power Plant and made the negro night-watchman give them some tools and they hammered on the side of the jail for two hours before they got the prisoner, and quietly drove out of the city.

A city of 2,500 people lay slumbering in the early hours of the night while a masked mob pounded at their jail for two hours unmolested, took away a prisoner and hung him to a tree ten or eleven miles in the country, and just as the Sheriff says he drove in from Eastman in his car and saw them crossing the streets in front of the Baptist Church.

Suffice it to say that we see no particular necessity just at this time to enter into a long dessertation on the majesty of the law, the deplorable condition of our country, the fact that civilization is threatened, that mob law and masked bands of criminals are running riot all over this land until many people are becoming alarmed. We have been hammering on this same old line at frequent intervals for a long time. Sometimes we get discouraged.

It is very evident that the prisoner could and should have been carried to some other place for safe keeping. This would have prevented the lynching and given the mob time to cool off. We have no sympathy for a rapist or would be rapist. They should be killed, but by due process of law. The mob has no right to kill. It is an awful thing for a community to be at the mercy of an unbridled mob. No use to say that the mob kills for only one crime. The records show too plainly that they often kill for slight offenses. If not checked, they will go from bad to worse and no man's life will be safe. If some attempt is not made to curb the mob passion in this country, the time will arrive when it will be unsafe for a man to stand up for the right. If the people don't demand that the officers of the law perform their duty the time is going to arrive in this country when we will have no protection, our lives and property will be unsafe and we will be at the mercy of the thugs and murderers.

We stand unreservedly and unqualifiedly for the majesty of the law. We condemn mob law with all the force of our nature, and don't hesitate to say that it is by far the most dangerous element threatening the civilization of our country.

Columbus, Ga, Enquirer-Sun

JUL 1 - 1923

The Mob Spirit Rebuked

The Savannah negro, [illegible], about a week ago, a mob [illegible] that it might lynch him in punishment for a crime he was alleged to have committed, has been duly indicted, tried by constituted authority, found guilty and sentenced to be hanged. This is the answer to those who composed the mob, one of the members of which was shot to death and one or two others wounded. This is the answer, or should be, to all men who undertake to substitute mob violence for the majesty of the law.

If the mob had succeeded in its undertaking it would not have wiped out the crime which was committed. On the contrary it would have given encouragement to other mobs which might be of the same frame of mind to undertake the do the same thing. And when mobs rule, reason flees, and only blind passion leads to the commission of deeds from which the partici- would turn in horror.

The prompt trial and its outcome constitute a rebuke to the mob spirit; it is more than that—it is evidenc of the fact that we can with confidence look to constituted authority to right the wrongs that have been committed insofar as those wrongs can be righted, whereas, under mob rule no wrong is righted, but an additional stain is put upon the state.

CHARGE OF LYNCH THREAT IS DENIED

The Atlanta Constitution

Denial of charges of threatened mob violence directed by Indiana papers against Georgians in connection with the trial and conviction of Clarence Crenshaw in Griffin, Ga., for assault on Thad Buckner on a Southland Pullman was directed Saturday to Governor McCray, of Indiana, by Fred E. Harrison, attorney for the negro. Allegations had been published after an appeal had been made to the Indiana governor by the wife and sister of Crenshaw.

The assertions of the wife of Crenshaw were said to have been substantiated by the testimony of Frank Duffy, of Indianapolis, secretary of the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America. Duffy is said to have appeared before the governor and to have delivered the charges of attempted mob violence and to have stated that Crenshaw had not been given a fair trial.

Deny Charges.

Included in the communication to the Indiana executive was the assertion that no mob violence had been threatened in any form, and that Crenshaw was given a fair and impartial trial. The claims alleged that the jury was intimidated at the trial by cries of "lynch him" and other threatening words.

"Representing Crenshaw, we would have most assuredly sought a change of venue if there had been a feeling which the papers indicate," Mr. Harrison's letter said. "If there had been any mob violence, Judge W. E. H. Deacrey, Jr., would have remanded every participant to jail.

"The negro was tried on a charge of assault with intent to murder, but when the jury brought in the verdict, the finding was assault and battery, a very much lighter offense than the one on which Crenshaw was indicted. The sentence of the court might have included the extreme penalty for the assault charge, but the sentence was for 12 months.

Defendant Denies Charge.

"There was no disorder in the least throughout the trial. And as attorneys for Crenshaw we wish to state that the defendant felt that he had not received injustice as was indicated in the Indiana papers."

Mr. Harrison intimated that the results of a new trial which he had intended for Crenshaw might be prejudiced by the stories circulated by the press. He said it was certain that some of the witnesses who had appeared in the previous trial would not be in the court at the next.

Crenshaw is said to have sent the following telegram to Governor McCray, of Indiana, when he learned of the charges of violence which had been made in connection with the case:

"Governor McCray,
"Indianapolis, Ind.
"Sir: Just received notice that mob violence has been threatened me, no truth in statement. Thanking you for aid, but I think my lawyers can handle the case.
(Signed) "Respectfully,
"CLARENCE CRENSHAW."

Macon Telegraph
Observer

AUG 29 1923

Preventing Lynching

The Macon Telegraph, in the course of a lengthy editorial on recent lynchings in Georgia, makes this observation:

It is claimed that there is a law in China that if a bank fails, the president of that bank loses his head. There is no if nor and, and no excuses. There are no bank failures in China. If the State of Georgia were really in earnest about wanting to stop mob activities and outrages, a law to the effect that if a sheriff or his deputies lost a prisoner, that sheriff should automatically be removed from office and made ineligible for other office—if that were the law there would be no lost prisoners. If the officers' lives or welfare were endangered like the prisoners' they would dodge the mob or stand it off.

This plan has been suggested before, and unquestionably it would work out successfully. It would result in the sheriffs keeping larger locks on the jail and larger guns inside. They would also have two or three deputies of a character that would make members of a mob quake to think of them.

But it would never be necessary to defend a prisoner from a mob if the sheriff's office was at stake. There would always be friends enough of the sheriff in any company to check the formation of a mob.

Lynching could be prevented in the South if there was a will but the will is lacking. Editors and preachers seem to be fairly strong against it, but in the communities where the crimes are committed it looks for the time as if everybody believed in taking the law in hand and going on. It is not the sheriff's bravery that is to blame, it is the community morale. Good citizens stay with the sheriff day and night, and use every device for breaking his spirit of resistance. If they knew his job was at stake they would be staying with the mob leaders and urging them to disperse.

Savannah, Ga. NEWS

JUL 3 1923

The thoughtful newspapers of the state and outside the state have also been commenting upon the recent the Savannah court and court officials did the right thing promptly in the matter of the recent trial of a negro charged with a heinous offense—the trial following with becoming promptness the unsuccessful attempt by a mob to storm the jail and take the prisoner out for a lynching. While less spectacular because the violence of the emergency had passed, the action of the court in doing its duty, in seeing that the criminal was speedily tried, as speedily as might accord with fairness and every extension of the right of an accused man, that he was given impartial hearing according to the regular, due, authorized processes of law is no less of a good example than the action of the officers of the county and of the military organizations in preventing the mob from making such regular course of legal action possible.

Savannah, Ga. NEWS

JUL 2 1923

The Mob Failed.

Chattanooga Times: The incident reported from Savannah, by the Associated Press relating the resistance of a mob by the authorities is a most reassuring confirmation of the recent declaration that the people of the South are setting their faces determinedly against all "lynch law" and "mob violence." It appears that a negro who had either made or attempted to make a criminal assault upon a white woman had been taken into custody by the sheriff and placed in jail. A mob of several thousand persons quickly formed and marched on the jail with the determination of seizing the prisoner and lynching him. The sheriff seems to be a man of nerve, having a high regard for his official oath and his obligation as a representative of the sovereignty of the state, and he met the mobocrats at the door of the jail with the declaration, "You shall not pass."

He notified the mob that if they attempted to carry out their purpose "there will be bloodshed." As if to show that he meant what he said he increased the armed forces about the jail and notified the mob that these forces were authorized to shoot and being men of courage and determination, they would shoot. Later, preferring to use persuasive rather than forcible methods to accomplish his end, he got the co-operation of the city fire department and streams of water were turned on the crowd. That however, instead of having a quieting effect, seemed to inflame the mob, and bricks, stones and other missiles were thrown into the ranks of the officers. Several shots were fired, resulting in the injury of several persons, among them some of the lynchers, one of the latter, perhaps fatally.

Finally the national guard effectively took charge of the situation and at a late hour in the morning the military forces had the situation well in hand.

The heartening part of that incident lies in the fact that the sheriff, unlike many others of his official authority, had the grit, the respect for his oath and regard for the honor of his state to withstand the mob until the military forces could be mobilized for effectually protecting the prisoner. The prisoner, if guilty, should be hung, of course, and there is no doubt but that he will be, but he will be hung according to law and after due process as prescribed in the constitution.

Savannah has, therefore, gone some way toward redeeming the state of Georgia from its ill repute as a "lynch" state, even though it may be said that if the incident had occurred in one of the smaller communities another lynching would have been added to the state's already humiliating record.

Savannah has proven, however, that in the larger cities where police, deputies and military authority are accessible there is no reason why a mob should rule.

Savannah, Ga. NEWS

AUG 24 1923

MEETING THE MOB.

The mob is almost always cowardly at heart, even when suddenly aroused passion is at the back of the mob movement. In most mobs the individual members are cowards—not one in a hundred would dare attempt the violent things which the gathered mass under a leadership which itself is cowardly save when backed by the members and fired by their spirit. The leaders themselves would not have the courage to go alone. The heart of this cowardice of the mob is the consciousness that it is in the wrong—and that consciousness, while it may not be active when passions are up, is still existent, no matter what provocation there has been for the violent gathering and conduct of the mob. The mob knows it is wrong. That conscience makes cowards of all mobbers.

There is but one way to meet and match and handle the mob, once it is formed: That way is through determined show of the power, the authorized force of duly constituted officers, with such support as officers have always the right to summon in time of emergency. The appearance, the presence, the firm, calm, quiet showing of the majesty of law with the order that law implies will always awe the cowardly mob. The people themselves can make possible such a condition that mobs will be impossible in anything like serious violence; the people can preserve a general sentiment in support of duly constituted law, a public opinion that not only advocates but demands order; the people can elect to office men who have respect for the law and the courage to manifest that respect aggressively; the people can make their officers courageous—for law and order, too, are the bolder and more firmly determined when there is back of its enforcement the momentum, the solid force of a general sentiment.

It is our own fault if there are mobs and mob violence.

GEORGIA-MOBS!

The reign of mob violence in Georgia must be stopped. The governor's immediate and uncompromising [illegible] challenges the public conscience of this state to a full cooperation to see that the guilty parties are brought to full justice, without fear or favor or intimidation.

Atlanta Constitution
Aug 26 1923
Atlanta, Ga.

This spirit of terrorism on the part of irresponsible people has done more to injure the state than anything else, not excepting the boll weevil.

Not only has it injured the state materially, but it has thrown over it a shadow of contempt in other sections of the country, that it does not deserve, for the overwhelming majority of the Georgia people are law abiding, and are not to be judged by a few, who have no regard for law or order or for the sacred institutions of government.

There is nothing more reprehensible than the mob that would tear down the system of jurisprudence, make mockery of the courts, and "regulate" by a code of violations that make laws as but scraps of paper.

Georgia has been cursed by mob tactics, and by terrorists. The time has come, in the name of law and decency and **in the name of the manhood of the outstanding citizenry,** to put a stop to it, if it takes every arm of the state government to do it, and if it creates an upheaval akin to revolution.

No people can live in contentment and prosperity unless the judiciary is maintained with that integrity that means the protection of society and the safeguarding of life and limb.

Two wrongs do not make a right. The courts are amply able to punish the guilty. **The mob is a reflection upon the judgment as well as upon the conscience of a people.**

Mob "regulating" in Georgia must stop. This is no time to temporize with terrorists. The lyncher is a murderer in the sight of God and man and amenable to the law as such.

Shall the mob or civilization rule in Georgia?

Lynchings—1923. Discussions 7L White Press. (Georgia). 1470

Macon, Ga. TELEGRAPH
NOV 20 1923

LETTERS TO THE TELEGRAPH

Prohibition and Politics

TO the Editor of The Telegraph: So many here and over the State have asked what the members of the W[illegible]n's Christian Temperance Union and [illegible]her Christian women would do if a can[illegible]date opposed to prohibition should be the nominee of the Democrat'c Party, that I am offering a reply through your columns, in the words of Dr. Mary Harris Armor, from an interview in the Chattanooga News of the 15th. Their purport is identical with that I have heard expressed by other Christian women leaders.

"The political leaders who think that by nominating a 'wet' they may thereby draw the votes of certain Northern States, which, linked with the solid South, will carry the Democratic platform to victory, offer a gratuitous insult to the Christian women of the South," said Mrs. Armor. "If such should be the result of the convention, then the split will come, and the women will in a body vote for a Republican 'dry.' But it will not be entirely between the men and women, for there are still enough Christian men in the South who hold to the ideals of prohibition to make the splitting faction the stronger.

"I am not speaking merely from a personal standpoint. I have lectured before many representative audiences in the South, and the statement of Southern womanhood's stand on the prohibition question has never failed to be cheered to the echo. Sunday morning in Centenary Church (in Chattanooga) my statement of affairs was applauded and cheered, and cheering isn't a common occurrence in the Southern churches I know that I speak the stand of my fellow women of the South. I speak as a Southern woman who knows the sentiment of Southern women.

"We will never back a nominee who does not stand four-square on the prohibition question, and whose record is not absolutely clean.

"The national convention must give us a man who can accept. If they honor and love and wish to preserve the Democratic Party they must give us a man we can accept. We are Christian women first and Democratic women next, and we cannot and will not support a man whose words and works do not agree.

"I myself sat in the gallery while Mr. Oscar Underwood led the fight against the Webb-Kenyon bill. Do you think I would support a man like that? No. And while I do not think it is my place in my position to influence women for one particular man, still it is my duty and my purpose to influence as many as I can against one who works to the detriment of prohibition.

"Personally I am very much in favor of William G. McAdoo, and I shall work privately for him. I am not privileged to speak for the women of the great organization of the W. C. T. U. on this score, for we are not partisan where the candidates fill the requirements, but I will say that McAdoo fills every requirement of the list. His deeds match his words.

"It is the high and holy duty of every true American woman to register and vote, to meet dirty politics at the ballot box. I strongly urge American women to exercise privilege and responsibility as citizens. Faith without works is death for our ideals."

Since speaking several times at the National W. C. T. U. convention in Columbus, O., in September, Dr. Armor has been the principal speaker at the State W. C. T. U. conventions of Missouri, South Carolina, Alabama, Georgia, Tennessee, Arkansas, Texas, Florida and she is to speak at the North Carolina and Pennsylvania conventions, and her lecture itinerary includes the National Anti-Saloon League convention in Birmingham, Ala., in December.

If I may have still more space, I will tell of $10,000 paid for a quart of liquor.

Ten thousand dollars is a high price to pay for a quart of outlawed beverage, yet a far greater price was paid in a certain Georgia county not so many months ago.

Soon after a white man had secured and imbibed of the intoxicating drink, he met a Negro, and insisted that the Negro dance. The Negro quickly grew tired of dancing and essayed to pass on about his own affairs. This resulted in a wrangle between the two, in which the Negro shot the white man, breaking his leg.

The Negro was lynched. Seven men were tried for lynching.

The white man was carried to a hospital for treatment, remaining some time. Six weeks later, he was carried to a hospital in another town and was under the care of one of the finest surgeons in the South. In eight weeks he was carried to a third hospital in still another place where his leg was finally amputated.

The man sued the surgeon in the second hospital for negligence. The verdict was in favor of the defendant.

The quart of liquor cost the life of the Negro; the loss of the white man's foot and leg, his time and earning capacity, three large hospital bills, court expenses and lawyer's fees; the surgeon's expenses, time from his practice and lawyer's fee; the expense to the county of several days' trials of the seven men for lynching and their lawyer's fees, amounting altogether to $10,000.

Besides this large sum of money, the quart cost an inestimable amount of sin and suffering both physical and mental, anxiety and heart-aches, humiliation and disgrace—much of it to innocent women and children—the violation of the laws of God and the State and nation; the besmirching of the name of our State by acts of violence and lawlessness.

Do you not think that now is the time for those who care for civic economy, decency, law and order, who love God and humanity, to work together to create a sentiment in Georgia which will not tolerate the purchase of another outlawed "quart"?

MRS. AUGUST BURGHARD.

Macon, Nov. 8th, 1923.

Macon, Ga. TELEGRAPH
AUG 19 1923

MOBS BREED MOBBERS

It's the same old, sordid story. Prisoners rendered impotent and helpless by the law and then the law failing to give them protection which it guarantees. Officers start from Macon with a prisoner to go to the county of the crime. They give no thought to the certain danger they are encountering. Their prisoner is taken from them by men who have more nerve and courage than the officers. The prisoner is hanged to a tree without any evidence of having been identified or given a dog's chance. It is done upon the theory that if he isn't guilty, it will serve as a good lesson to other people and make them quake to think of what awful penalties attach to evil-doers. The other case was one of a mob attacking the jail in Bleckly County and taking a prisoner therefrom and hanging him. Then the Governor, as usual, declares himself, says mob violence must stop—and there everybody stops but the mob.

There have been all kinds of suggestions as to how to put an end to mob violence. No one of them has been adopted, or if adopted, has proved the least deterrent. And the lynching goes merrily on. We cannot excuse ourselves by saying the lynchings are for the terrible and unspeakable crime. That would be quite fine if it were true. But, in the first place, it is not true in every case. In the next place, one lynching but gives the mob a taste for blood. And upon more blood it must feed. And when there are no Negroes to be chased or hung, then the mob, become bold by its success, takes up the trail after white people.

Witness the whippings in and around Macon. That is but an outgrowth of the mob spirit. It is said by some that the white people who were whipped were but sorry cusses, anyway, and everybody is glad they were whipped. That was what was said about the Negro rapists. It was fine for a starter. But after lynching a few rapists, the mob saw what it could do, and rather liked it, and then it ceased to be careful about the guilt or innocence of the victim. The mob had gathered for murderous purposes, and one victim suited as well as another. After the inclusion of innocent or untried Negroes, then the mob spirit included punishment of one kind or another of sorry white trash, as the mob termed them. After this has been tried a while, then better white trash will come on for handling, and the country where safety of person and human liberty were guaranteed under the Constitution will no longer be such a country. Every man must carry his own shotgun and be his own defender, and if anybody tries to interfere with him he will be justfied in shooting.

For if there is no protection in officers and jails, what other redress or hope has a man than his own self-reliance? It has been proposed to empower the Governor to remove from office any Sheriff who loses his prisoner, if in the opinion of the Governor the loss was due to carelessness, cowardice or neglect. Well, it won't have to be a smart man to anticipate the effect of such a law. As a rule, Sheriffs are powerful factors in local politics, and Governors being embryonic United States Senators, are not going to take any chances with removing Sheriffs from office. So, some kind of whitewash or kalsomine will always be made up ready to be slathered on any case that arises.

It is claimed that there is a law in China that if a bank fails, the president of that bank loses his head. There is no if nor and, and no excuses. There are no bank failures in China. If the State of Georgia were really in earnest about wanting to stop mob activities and outrages, a law to the effect that if a Sheriff or his deputies lost a prisoner, that Sheriff should be automatically removed from office and made ineligible for other office—if that were the law there would be no lost prisoners. If the officers' lives or welfare were endangered like the prisoner's, they would dodge the mob or stand it off.

This present-day plan of having people in charge of prisoners, people who exhibit neither ingenuity, discretion nor courage, and who come back with the sorry story that their man was taken away from them by a mob that was fierce and scaresome, is the proper one if we want the mob spirit and activities to grow. But if we want law to be respected, law must be given into the hands of men who mean business and are not afraid. It would seem that one experience like the Macon officers had in the recent Macon lynching, when they started from Griffin with their prisoner and brought him to the mob waiting here, would have been enough to have convinced them that if they have a prisoner the last place in the world to take him to is the scene of the crime, until proper precautions have been taken for his protection. If Friday's mob had gotten the prisoner away from the officers on their way to Atlanta, there would have been less room for complaint.

The blood that the mob drank on Friday has whetted the appetites of a thousand more law-breakers or those so inclined. It's great fun.

VALDOSTA, GA. Times.

AUG - 15 1923

TRYING TO CURB MOBS

Governor Clifford Walker has taken a heroic stand against all classes of people who try to take the law in their hands. A few nights ago an attack was made upon the training school for boys at Milledgeville by a gang of rough-necks who wanted to terrorize the place and to get hold of a nergo who was at work there. The action of this lawless gang was roundly denounced by the people of Baldwin County, and one of the alleged leaders has been arrested.

About the same time a gang of "Unmasked" men took out four citizens of Macon and gave them a flogging. We presume the men who were flogged were not exceptionally good citizens, but they were entitled to a trial in a court house where they could put up their defense and exercise the rights which are given to every citizen. They ought to have been given a chance to face their accusers before witnesses, in open court. The attack upon them was cowardly in the extreme and was probably done by men who were afraid to show themselves and were afraid to back up their position in court.

Governor Walker roundly denounced both mobs, the one which committed the outrage at Milledgeville and also the one which was active at Macon. If this latter mob was "unmasked," as the report stated it was, it looks as if some of its members could be identified and would be identified if the local authorities at Macon were as active as they ought to be. The police officers can nearly always run down criminals who operate as openly as this mob seems to have done. It indicates that the mob is backed up by some political influence which the police officers are afraid of.

The great trouble in cases of this sort is that it is opening the gates for something worse. When we lose respect for law, we start an avalanche that is liable to sweep away our civilization unless it is curbed. The only difference between the law of the jungle and the law of our land is that we make one effective by respecting it and upholding it, while the inhabitants of the jungle make their law to suit themselves and found it upon the power to enforce it. The strongest brute survives and the weaker ones are killed off.

In a great government like ours, we must respect our laws and make others respect them. There is no right given to one group of men which is not given to another and every man, no matter how much of a criminal he is, should be given the benefit of a trial by jury, which has come down to us from the days of Magna Charta, and for which our forefathers shed their blood, for generation after generation.

ATLANTA, GA. Constitution.

General

AUG 21 1923

THE WHIPPING HYENAS.

Saturday and Sunday newspapers in the east and central west, reaching Atlanta Monday, had the news stories of mob violence in Georgia spread all over their front pages.

And so it is in all of the thousands of daily newspapers, large and small, in every state of the American union, and even abroad—for mob rule in Georgia has gotten to be even an international scandal.

The Saturday newspapers carried the lynchings of two negroes in one day, one in Bleckley county and another in Houston county. The Sunday newspapers carried further stories of the floggings in and around Macon, which have reached such stages of terrorizing that the whole nation is talking of it, and the newspapers of other sections are editorializing on "the Georgia disgrace."

The truth about the whole lamentable situation is that it is the truth that hurts.

There is no error in the news dispatches that the courts and constituted authorities in Bleckley county were defied by a mob of around 50 armed and disguised men, traveling in automobiles from which the license tags had been detached, and that the jail was entered and a prisoner, awaiting an orderly trial according to the laws of Georgia, taken therefrom and "hanged and riddled with bullets."

There is no error in the news dispatches that a negro was taken from officers in Houston county, almost at the same hour, "by a mob of about seventy-five men," and hanged and riddled.

Both of these men, whether guilty or not guilty of the crimes for which charged, were in the custody of constituted authorities when kidnaped and murdered, thereby destroying any extenuating plea of possible escape from legal justice.

There was no error in the news dispatches of Sunday telling of the further barbaric escapades of the human hyenas at Macon, who have terrorized that community for months with indiscriminate floggings, administered to both white and black, without any apparent charges of wrongdoing against the victims, but were illustrations of bloodthirsty inhumanities under the very night-lights of one of the most refined and cultured cities in the south.

It is the truth that hurts. It is the truth that is making Georgia today the most publicly abused and censured state in the American union—holding her up to the ridicule of nation-wide public opinion, and disgracing her in the estimation of right-thinking people throughout the world.

And yet, while such is the misfortune of having an element, however small, of human beasts in any community to disturb and upset the peace and serenity of upright, law-abiding citizens, the further truth is that the overwhelming majority of the people of Georgia, in every section, rural and urban, are as militantly opposed to mob violence and night riding as is the most sedate apostle of law among the puritan critics.

All the more lamentable that any situation shall exist in Georgia by which a few irresponsibles, as compared to the entire citizenship, shall be permitted to defile the whole in public appraisement, like the one drop of impurity may destroy the value of the full vessel of liquid.

It is a grievous condition and it must be stopped.

That the measure of a people's greatness is their respect for law is an axiom as old as the civilization that is founded upon law and the integrity of constituted government.

Governor Walker is to be commended for his firm pronouncement that every resource of the state would be employed to stamp these hyenas from the face of Georgia, and in the undertaking he should have the undivided cooperation of right-thinking, upstanding men and women of the state.

Georgians are too good a people as a whole—too law-abiding and patriotic—to have this mob stigma hanging like a cloud of hate over their heads. The material welfare of Georgia is too great an issue, too valuable to the prosperity and contentment of our people and our posterity, to have it thus harassed and obstructed by minority elements of moral degenerates who, like skunks, befoul the atmosphere of every community in which they reside.

Civilization, founded upon the religion of Christ and made secure by the sacrifices of our fathers, is too priceless a possession to have it menaced and threatened by men who make the law a mockery and the judiciary the debris of government wreckage.

The conscience of Georgia must become aroused, militantly aroused, in rebellion against such arch-enemies of our government, and of the honor and integrity of our people.

If it is necessary to call into service a volunteer army to stamp such marauders out of Georgia a solid phalanx of determined Georgians will fall into a line that will reach from the Blue Ridge to the Atlantic.

It is civilization against barbarism. Which shall rule in Georgia?

ATLANTA, GA. Constitution.

AUG 20 1923

GEORGIA MOBS!

The reign of mob violence in Georgia not only demands the governor's immediate and uncompromising attention but it challenges the public conscience of this state to a full cooperation in seeing that the guilty parties are brought to full justice, without fear or favor or intimidation.

This spirit of terrorism on the part of irresponsible people has done more to injure the state than anything else, not excepting the boll weevil.

Not only has it injured the state materially, but it has thrown over it a shadow of contempt in other sections of the country, that it does not deserve, for the overwhelming majority of the Georgia people are law abiding, and are not to be judged by a few, who have no regard for law or order or for the sacred institutions of government.

There is nothing more reprehensible than the mob that would tear down the system of jurisprudence, make mockery of the courts, and "regulate" by a code of violations that make laws as but scraps of paper.

Georgia has been cursed by mob tactics, and by terrorists. The time has come, in the name of law and decency and **in the name of the manhood of the outstanding citizenry,** to put a stop to it, if it takes every arm of the state government to do it, and if it creates an upheaval akin to revolution.

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Two wrongs do not make a right. The courts are amply able to punish the guilty. **The mob is a reflection upon the judgment as well as upon the conscience of a people.**

Mob "regulating" in Georgia must stop. This is no time to temporize with terrorists. The lyncher is a murderer in the sight of God and man and amenable to the law as such.

Shall the mob or civilization rule in Georgia?

Madison Journal
Madison

JUL 6 1923

If all Georgia sheriffs would follow the example of the Chatham county sheriff there would be fewer lynchings in Georgia.

Lynchings—1923.
Discussions

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White Press. (Georgia.)

1469

CORDELE, GA
Dispatch
AUG-20 1923

A SHERIFF'S DELINQUENCY

We have no hesitancy in charging delinquency to the sheriff of Bibb county in permitting the lynching of the negro who was taken as a suspect—who remained a suspect—for the Houston county crime against a white woman of a month ago. Cumulative evidence forces this conclusion. If we had the power to "fire" a sheriff for permitting two lynchings, this sheriff would become the first example of punishment for derlection of duty. We would write it into the statute books of the state that any sheriff permitting two lynchings was automatically barred from that office forever.

The sheriff of Bibb county failed in the Forsyth lynching—utterly failed in the performance of the very smallest duties belonging to that office. Yesterday every movement made by the men with their mob's victim was clearly a move for the purpose of lynching—at least for the advantage of the lynchers. The claims of a detective that he did not know this or that are not possible to believe. They are on their very face not so—not possible for normal minded people to accept.

This negro was a charge of the sheriff of Bibb county. He need not make any claims to the contrary—his office puts him with honesty—with all sincerety and courage—into the business of keeping the peace of the state. To have permitted this latest mob victim in Bibb to have been taken directly into the hands of the slayers is too plainly the lending of a hand where mob violence is already making too many heroes of outlaws.

Taking a negro for identification in such a manner for such a crime is too soft for us. Precaution of the right kind would never have started that ride. Men who wanted to prevent a lynching—who wanted to save the state what happened yesterday while still this negro was only a suspect—certainly would have made different plans—even though they required the victim to travel to Macon or some other point of safety for the alleged criminal. That lynching was planned before that negro started on that ride. To get 300 people out of the rural sections on such short notice is impossible.

What the governor will do with that case is already settled. What the courts will do is likewise already determined. But somebody in Macon must assert himself. This lawless conduct cannot go on. People in Bibb county know there are great dangers—fires that will not out themselves—in this unrestricted activity of the mob.

BRUNSWICK GA,

AUG 28 1923

The mob spirit seems to be rampant in the state, demonstrations of lawlessness occurring in four places last week. Two lynchings and an attack upon a state institution are among the outrages that have recently smudged pages of Georgia's record. Conditions have aroused the new governor to action, and he says he will prevent disorder and lawlessness if he has to resort to martial law. Governor Walker has set for himself a big task, and if he succeeds in it he will rank with the best gubernatorial executives—men who have fought the insidious forces seeking to weaken their commonwealths. Mob-law has become so common in the last few years that it will take a strong will to combat it, and the governor who banishes the lawless spirit, which is so detrimental to the best interests of the state, will serve well, in one respect at least.

Lynchings — 1923
Discussion.

White Press, (Georgia).

1468

Atlanta, Ga., Constitution
JUN 4 - 1923

PENNSYLVANIA LEADS.

Governor Pinchot has just signed the most drastic anti-lynching law ever passed by a state legislature. And yet it is not too drastic, and if other states besides Pennsylvania would enact similar laws there would not only be no excuse for the Dyer bill, or any other federal measure that seeks to tear down the rights of states, but the crime of lynching would be materially reduced.

It is something for the law-makers of Georgia, and every other state where mob violence has time and again disgraced the state, to think about, and perhaps emulate.

The new Pennsylvania law imposes a fine of $10,000 upon any county where a lynching takes place, the fine to be applied to relief of the family of the victim. It makes the officers of the law from whom a victim is taken and lynched guilty of a felony, with a penalty of five years' imprisonment, or a fine of $5,000. It makes those who participate in lynchings guilty of first degree murder. It also provides for a minimum fine of $10,000 and imprisonment for not more than ten years for attempt to take away from an officer a prisoner who has sought the protection of the courts.

These penalties may seem excessive, but it is just such legislation as this, rigidly enforced, that is necessary to cope with the lynching evil, and if the aroused public consciences of states where lynchings are prevalent do not meet the situation in this drastic manner the congress will pass a federal bill that will be one of the most serious blows at the old democratic doctrine of state rights ever known.

The proposition is not only to stop lynchings, which are relics of barbarism, but to sustain the integrity of the judiciary system. To break that down and government itself is destroyed; and the judiciary cannot be properly sustained as long as the mob system of "regulating" is tolerated.

The man, black or white, who is guilty of a capital offense against society is going to be apprehended and convicted and punished, according to law, and in an orderly, regular manner. The courts may sometimes move slow—too slow—but there is no other system of administering justice—of punishing the guilty and protecting the innocent.

Two wrongs have never yet made one right and never will. Law cannot be upheld by a system that violates law.

The strengthening of the orderly court system of trial, and conviction or acquittal upon unshakable evidence, is the only method of enforcing law, and of protecting society. To this end there should be no effort spared to make anti-mob laws so stringent that they may serve as practical deterrents, and thereby actually serve their useful and honorable purposes.

Atlanta, Ga., Georgian
MAY 4 - 1923

The white folks lynched a negro up in Missouri the other day for the usual crime and very little has been said about it in the Northern newspapers. Had it been in the South it would have been published far and wide, but just the same these lynchings will go on either in the North or the South just as long as such crimes are committed. We are opposed to mob lawlessness but the courts are entirely too slow to handle such cases.

Jaccad Da
Record
AUG 30 1923

OUTSIDE THE LAW.

The Observer has long contended that lynching negroes outside the law, and beating them and destroying their property was only a first step and that when it became well established that punishment can be inflicted outside the law, we will have the mob dealing with white men as well as negroes.

The prediction has come to pass.

There is hardly a day now that does not bring its story of punishment of some sort or other administered by a mob and outside the law.

Sometimes the story comes from Macon, again from Newnan, from Ohio, from Texas or Louisiana. It is much the same story. A few men take it into their heads that the law is not functioning as it should function, and they set out to right the wrongs of society. They set themselves up as witness, judge and jury.

One day this week a man at Newnan was taken from his home and whipped and died as a result of the whipping.

At Macon a man who was sick in bed was taken out and whipped.

In court a sick man may have his trial postponed, but it seems that the night riders accept no excuses offered for postponement.

A law by mob makes any man's life, his peace and his property very uncertain things.—Moultrie Observer.

"LAW AND ORDER WIN"

Under the above caption the Grand Rapids (Mich.) Herald comments most heartily the prompt action of the state in the recent Savannah situation in preventing by military intervention the lynching of a negro prisoner charged with a heinous offense.

As the Herald says:

"In the case of the prisoner there appears no doubt of his guilt. There is, however, a way provided for his trial and punishment in the laws of the state of Georgia, **and that is the only way which sound Americanism countenances.**"

The editorial goes on to recount the most unenviable record of Georgia as to lynchings in the past, and regards the Savannah incident as a turning point and of national importance in showing "a wholesomely increased respect for the laws of the states and the nation."

An Atlanta citizen in Grand Rapids sends this editorial to The Constitution with the comment: "I hope we are not guilty of all they charge us with, but I am glad to note they seem ready to commend us as well as condemn when the circumstances justify."

That is true. Georgia has been advertised badly for these many years by reason of an element of irresponsible men who too frequently resorted to mob violence.

The overwhelming sentiment of this state is as much opposed to mobs as it is in Michigan or any other state, but the fact that lynchings have been resorted to illustrates, as shown by the reference in the Grand Rapids Herald, that a small element, by acts that discredit a people, can create an adverse opinion among those of other states that is immeasurable in its harmfulness.

It is refreshing that papers are willing to see the light of a new dawn. Only by strict adherence to constituted authority can the ideals of government be maintained. Certainly nothing strikes so heavily at the foundation of our institutions as the mob; nothing tears down the judiciary so completely; nothing undermines the economic fabric of our commercial and industrial life so irreparably as disrespect for law and order.

It is hoped that whenever and wherever the mob shows its head in Georgia the strong arm of law and of constituted authority may so completely put it down, that at no distant day Georgia shall be advertised good and not bad to the world.

In the meantime the Grand Rapids Herald is to be commended for the fairness of its comment.

Atlanta Constitution
AUG 12 1923

FAILURE TO STOP LYNCHING RAPPED

Asheville, N. C., August 2.—Resolutions deploring what was termed the failure of the state governments to handle properly the lynching problem were unanimously adopted today by the commission on interracial cooperation, which is in session here.

The resolutions drew no distinction between various sections of the country and deplored failure to stamp out lynching which was termed "the most conspicuous enemy to justice and righteousness and the most flagrant violation of the constitution of our great nation."

Presented by Mrs. Johnson.

The resolutions presented to the commission by Mrs. Luke Johnson, Atlanta, director of women's work in behalf of the women's section of the commission, with the request that they be adopted by the commission. They expressed what the women's section desired the commission to state on the lynching evil, she added.

Mrs. T. W. Bickett, of Raleigh, N. C., widow of Former Governor Bickett, of North Carolina, chairman of the women's committee, and Miss Emma Whitfield, Richmond, Va., secretary of the committee, signed the resolutions which were as follows:

"Whereas, lynching at one time practiced only as punishment by the mob for the violation of womanhood, is now resorted to even for robbery, petty crime, or no crime, and,

"Whereas, at present the responsibility for the punishment of lynchers and the abolition of the evil rests solely in the several state governments, and.

"Whereas, we the woman's committee of the commission on interracial co-operation, are overwhelmed with a deep sense of humiliation that this hideous crime is heralded abroad as the only means available to men for the protection of womanhood and,

"Whereas, we likewise suffer because of the seeming impotence of our state governments in the protection of human life and in their ability to find and punish lynchers and members of mobs, who, in the absence of sufficient law enforcement by the regularly constituted authorities, presume to assume the role of judge, courts and jury—thus themselves becoming the greatest of law violators—therefore.

Deplore Failure.

"Be It Resolved: (1). That we deplore the failure of state governments to handle this—the most conspicuous enemy to justice and righteousness, and the most flagrant violation of the constitution of our great nation.

"(2). That we definitely set ourselves to the task of creating such sentiment as is possible to use in each state of our territory to the end that not only sufficient laws shall be enacted to enable the trusted officers of the law to discharge their full duty, but to secure the enforcement of the laws now in existence.

"(3). That the director of woman's work of the commission be, and is hereby instructed to secure the presentation of this resolution to all our co-operating organizations and state committees, and further, to put into effect such plans as are necessary to secure a sustained effort on the part of our women to the accomplishment of these ends."

Douglasville Ga
New
AUG 31 1923

Unless mob violence and lynchings slow up in Georgia, the Tuskeegee Statistician will pass the prize to the Empire State of the South. What ails the folks in this erstwhile peaceful commonwealth.

MARIETTA, GA.

JUN 28 1923

LYNCHING, ITS CAUSE AND PREVENTION.

The bodd wevil, with all its devatating offects, never has proven a greater blight to the cotton industry of the South than has lynching and associates crime proven to any state when allowed to rankle in the heart of that state. Its oillbwy clouds hang, mitted to plunge unheeded and una shroud of pending doom when perchecked. It is but the chidhood of anarchy and the germ of destruction. No monster more cruel or more dangerous over ravashed a land than lynch-law. It was the horror of the reign of terror in France and the foundations for bolshevian in Russian. Writters have written, preachers have preached and judges have pleaded, and yet we scarcely ever pick up a paper without being made to realize the fact that, despite all this, the evil still runs amuck in the land.

What is the trouble? where is the secret of our failure to cure our country of this course? Surely something must be radically wrong with our methods of handling the situation. Sunrely in a nation and a state that makes a boast of its Christianity there should be away to cope with the stituation and prevent a continuance of such a blight.

In the first place, does our writing, our writing. our preaching and our pleading accomplish that whereupon we send them? If not? Mou might as well try to wast a negro white or change the color of the vaulted sky as to expect very great results from any of these if, to begin with your hearers and readers are not NEW BORN men. Think of trying to presuade a lien not to destroy or a rattler not to strike! Who can do it? Our people must be made NEW CREATURES before they are going to adopt our standards to any great extent. Getting them into church and ministering to their social needs alone will nver produce a cure, either. A speaker whom we heard recently, said: "The need of the hour is money, not arevival.' That idea will never save the situation, and until we learn and put into operation the real key to the situation, we might as well expect anything to happen. The key to the situation is A REVIVAL OF RELIGION THAT SAVES MEN FROM SIN AND MAKES THEM INTO NEW CREATURES with new desires and new visions. Then our social and financial needs will be satisfied, as well as the morals of our land cleansed of its diseases.

That revival should start in the homes. Many a father and mother will some day stand condemned for murdered and lynchings of their sons ana udthgrtohYzzzberdetaoinshrdluc and daughters." As is the mother, so is her daughter," is a proverb which ought to govern our homes and our land. Our children are going to be, to a great extent, just what we make of them in the home. "A new age, and a proplem" you will say. Yes, but that does not relieve us of our responsibility to them and society; nay, it increases it.

And then the cry goes up, "Law enforcement, law inforcement!" Amen! But how many liars we have among us. They don't want law inforcement; they want to "be heard for their much speaking." Not everyone who cries it, of course, but legion. There is a bunch who have sung that song threadbare and still make donkeys of themselves snuffing and sniffing around the judge in an effort to hinder law enforcement. Let a fellow hold an officer of the law and thereby assist a prisoner to escape, and he is prisoner next, and should be. And then along comes this bunch to perform the same assistance, just using different methods.

The judge is cursed for his slackness, the sheriff bamed for his failure to execute law, and "hell is too good for the revenues officers who fail stand by," but tthe chances are that nine times out of ten a lot of the very bunch who do the condeming and the daming are the first to reach the judge,s or governor's side in behalf of the criminal. And then, if by grit and grace the judge, prison commission and governor succeed in standing firmly by the law, there is at once a wild rush to make the punishment just as light as possible; destroying the lash, abolishing the noose and reducing a life sentence to a summer's vacation. It is a strange thing, and one that Solomon would be likely to include among the things which he could not understand if he were here, is how any officer, judge, prison commission or governor even succeeds in doing as well as they do in the face of such a mob. Lynching and outlawery is going to exist, yea and grow worse the longer the criminal knows that he has an ally in this bunch of bottles sucking men and crying women who are ever ready to come to their aid; minimizing their crimes, picturing and horrobleness of the gallows and lynching but equally as ready to forget thehibeousness of their crimes and seeking to make thei punishment as light as possible. The cause of the crime and lynch-law must not always lie wholly with the man who plunges the knife or pulls the rope. There are others who will share their fate with them when all men give account for the deeds done in the body.

And just as long as a community feels that it wil not get justice at the hands of the law, there will continue to be lynch-law and just as soon as it becomes certain that a man who commits crime against society MUST pay the penalty **equal to his crime.**, just so soon will the psychological thing occur. Not only will lynching be decreased, but the crimes which prompt the lynching will be reduced and officers of the law may be counted on to be more faithful to their duties. When officials are no longer nagged by these whom they know keep them in office; and when the criminal knows when there is no chance under heaven to escape the penalty of the law; and when our citizens feel that they can count on the law being carried out, and the criminal punished equal to his crime, then law enforcement leagues may take a permanent vacation. We are ready to reply that this should not be the situation, and it shouldn't . Officials ought not to fear the votes of the people. Criminals ought to stop committing crime without being forced to. And lynchers ought to quit their lynching regardless of other people's actions; all because these acts are wrong. BUT

WILL THEY DO IT?

My heart bleeds for the poor fellow to be hung, or who must say farewell to parents as he leaves for the chain gang. I want to save him from those penalties, and his parents from their farewells. To this end I have pledged my life, my body and my soul, and I hope to die in the effort, but it shall ever be to save the boy from the penalty before he commits the crime. Then I have not only prevented the penalty but the crime, which is far the greater. And at the same time, I am thereby abolishing lynch law.

REGARD FOR LAW.

The Constitution
Atlanta, Ga.

In the present-day disregard for the institutions of government, and irreverance for the law, so plainly evidenced by the mob spirit, it is interesting to turn back to many of the almost inspired utterances of Abraham Lincoln, the product of the mountains who became the sage of his day, and the leading American exponent of rigid obedience to the written code. 8-25-23

The quotation cited below is from one of his memorable speeches, and pictures a condition then similar to that which exists today in Georgia, except that conditions then were far more conducive to disorder and restlessness among the people than they are today, when the judiciary is the strongest arm of the government and entirely capable in its functioning to mete full and unchallenged justice to every offender. It follows:

"At what point shall we expect the approach of danger? By what means shall we fortify against it? Shall we expect some trans-Atlantic military giant to step the ocean and crush us at a blow? Never! . . .

"At what point, then, is the approach of danger to be expected? I answer, if it ever reaches us, it must spring up amongst us; it cannot come from abroad. If destruction be our lot, we must ourselves be its author and finisher. As a nation of free men we must live through all time or die by suicide.

"I hope I am over wary; but if I am not, there is even now something of evil omen among us. I mean the increasing disregard for law which pervades the country—the growing disposition to substitute wild and furious passions in lieu of the sober judgment of courts, and the worse than savage mobs for the executive ministers of justice. . . .

"The answer is simple.

"Let every American, every lover of liberty, every well-wisher of his posterity, swear by the blood of the revolution never to violate in the least particular the laws of the country, and never to tolerate their violation by others. . . .

"Let reverence for the laws be breathed by every American mother to the lisping babe that prattles on her lap; let it be taught in the schools, in seminaries and in colleges; let it be written in primers, in spelling books and in almanacs; let it be preached from the pulpits, proclaimed in legislative halls and enforced in courts of justice. And, in short, let it become the political religion of the nation; and let the old and the young, the rich and the poor, the grave and the gay of all sexes and tongues and colors and conditions, sacrifice unceasingly upon its altars."

"Here in Georgia," writes a prominent business man of Atlanta in submitting the above quotation to The Constitution, "our dangers politically, socially and economically, are from within and not from without—too much destruction, too little construction."

That is largely true. The curse of politics lies over the state like a menacing cloud.

With a mania for making new counties that has swept the state for several years the safeguards of true democratic faith have been swept away by an undemocratic system of representation, resulting first in an unwieldy legislature, and then in a spirit of bolshevism from which the secular mob spirit incubates and gets its comfort.

There is no mistaking the true facts, and he is an enemy to civilization who will not state them frankly and fearlessly, and seek by orderly processes to eradicate the mob spirit from Georgia.

Another election is rolling around. There is sufficient upstanding, outstanding law-abiding public thought in Georgia if aroused to action, to put a stop not only to the law breaker who rides the highways at night but to his ally who goes into public office to give him protection.

This thing, in all of its social and moral and political ramifications, must come to a stop. Either the civilization of Georgia must rule, or anarchy.

Lynchings—1923 — White Press, (Georgia). 1467

Discussion.

Tifton Ga
Gazette
MAR 9-1923

NIPPING LYNCHING IN THE BUD.

Just now, newspapers are full of praise for the gallant action of Sheriff Hagan, of Putnam county, Florida, who defended his county jail from mob attack, and after the mob had been dispersed, took such prompt action that eleven of the attacking party were arrested and are now being held to answer charges. One of the best comments we have seen on the Palatka episode is from The Augusta Chronicle, which says of "Sheriff Hagan, of Palatka":

Hagan, of Palatka, is a real sheriff. When law custodians turned over to his custody a prisoner for safe-keeping, he knew what it meant. He was to keep the man safely till the law called for him again.

He has done this. True, enough men, defying the law and challenging the law officers, went to Hagan at the jail and demanded the prisoner. They wanted to take the prisoner out of the jail and kill him. Hagan was fired upon by these men and was slightly wounded by them. Their bullets fell near his daughter. Balls from their guns hit all around him in the jail. But he used his shot gun, ran them away and followed them into the street, shooting at them. Later he caused the arrest of a number of the crowd and had them put in jail, and he is going to see to it that they are to remain in jail until withdrawn by the machinery of the law.

There is praise everywhere for Sheriff Hagan. All of the newspapers and many public men are hailing him and complimenting him. But Hagan says that that is all out of order—that he was merely doing his duty; and that he stands ready to do that at any time; adding that, if ever he feels that he might fall short of his duty, he will tell the Governor in advance, and make room for some sheriff who will do his full duty.

Hagan admits, of course, that he can be overwhelmed; that he is not superhuman. But he lets it be known that while he wears the badge of the sheriff he is going to conduct himself as he believes sheriffs should conduct themselves, and he intimates strongly his idea about it all when he says: "It would be better that the sheriff give his life than that the law be outraged." He evidently holds that it would be an outrage on the law if he, the sheriff, while still alive, had permitted the prisoner to have been taken away from the jail.

The prisoner does not amount to much. From all accounts he is a wicked man who has been guilty of an ugly crime. But the law amounts to a great deal. That is the way Hagan looks at it. The law ordered the prisoner safely kept. Hagan is safely keeping him.

In a great majority of cases, lynchings could be prevented if officers were willing to take their lives in their own hands and defend their prisoners at the expense of the lives of men who may be their neighbors and closest friends. It is a question of willingness to obey the law and enforce the law, at the price of office, of popularity, and often of life or limb. For it is not a popular proceeding.

Something like a quarter of a century past, the Sheriff of Muscogee County, Georgia, nipped a lynching in the bud when he defended the jail at Columbus and the prisoner in his charge at the risk of his own life and that of his deputies, and at the price of some of the lives of the attacking praty. That put a damper on mob violence in Columbus and environs for a time, but things are different now. There was much criticism of the Sheriff at the time, and if our recollection serves, he did not hold office long.

Young men belonging to military companies, who have been called out for guard duty to maintain order, have been called on occasionally to turn their guns on those who were their friends. They have found the performance of guard duty unpleasant and unpopular. That it also was dangerous was one of the least of its unpleasant features.

We believe that officers the country over would go farther to protect their prisoners if they knew public sentiment was behind them. But the creature cannot be greater than the creator, and we cannot expect officers to risk life and position, and perhaps their citizenship in a community, to enforce laws their people do not want enforced.

People, even those who want the laws maintained, talk a great deal about law enforcement, and then stand back when an officer does his duty and leave him for the rabble to villify and sometimes punish. Too many people heedlessly criticise the officer who tries to do his duty. Too many criticise the militiaman who is only trying to fulfill his oath. Too few stand behind officers, civil and military, when they are doing their duty. As a rule, these officers are left to pay the price of service without assistance from the people they serve. Sometimes, the people they serve join in persecution. When we have a more wholesome public sentiment behind officers of the law, we will have more instances like that at Palatka.

Meantime, we await with interest developments there. Will the people of Putnam county stand behind their Sheriff, or will they leave him to face the lawless element alone to answer for his action?

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MARIETTA, GA.,

Times

MAY 17 1923

LYNCHING, ITS CAUSE AND PREVENTION

Rev. Fred H. Ray.

The boll weevil, with all its devasting effects, never has proven a greater blight to the cotton industry of the South than has lynching and associate crimes proven to any state when allowed to rankle in the heart of that state. Its billowy clouds hang, a shroud of pending doom when permitted to plunge unheeded and unchecked. It is but the childhood of anarchy and the germ of destruction. No monster more cruel or more dangerous ever ravished a land than lynch-law. It was the horror of the Reign of Terror in France and the foundation for bolshevism in Russia. Writers have written preachers have preached and judges have pleaded, and yet we scarcely ever pick up a paper without being made to realize the fact that, despite all this, the evil still runs amuck in the land.

What is the trouble? Where is the secret of our failure to cure our country of this curse? Surely something must be radically wrong with our methods of handling the situation. Surely in a nation and a state that makes a boast of its Christianity there should be a way to cope with the situation and prevent a continuance of such a blight.

In the first place, does our writing, our preaching and our pleading accomplish that whereunto we send them? If not, why not? You might as well try to wash a negro white or change the color of the vaulted sky as to expect very great results from any of these if, to begin with, your hearers and readers are not NEW BORN men. Think of trying to persuade a lion not to destroy or a rattler not to strike! Who can do it? Our people must be must be made NEW CREATURES before they are going to adopt our standards to any extent. Getting them into the church and ministering to their social needs alone will never produce a cure, either. A speaker whom we heard recently said "The need of the hour is money, not a revival." That idea will never save the situation, and until we learn and put into operation the real key to the situation, we might as well expect anything to happen. The key to the situation is A REVIVAL OF RELIGION THAT SAVES MEN FROM SIN AND MAKES THEM INTO NEW CREATURES with new desires and new vision. Then our social and financial needs will be satisfied as well as the morals of our land clensed of its diseases.

That revival should start in the homes. Many a father and mother will some day stand condemned for murders and lynchings of their sons and daughters. "As is the mother, so is her daughter," is a proverb which ought to govern our homes and our land. Our children are going to be, to a great extent, just what we make of them in the home. "A new age, a new problem?" you say. Yes, but that does not relieve us of our responsibility to them and society; nay, it increases it.

And then the cry goes up. "Law enforcement, law enforcement!" Amen! But how many liars we have among us. They don't want law enforcement; they want to "be heard for their much speaking." Not everyone who cries it, of course, but legion. There is a bunch who have sung that song threadbare and still make donkeys of themselves snoffing and sniffing around the judge in an effort to hinder law enforcement and thereby assist a prisoner to escape and he is prisoner next, and should be. And then along comes this bunch to perform the same assistance, just using different methods.

The judge is cursed for his slackness the sheriff damned for his failure to execute law, and "hell is too good for the revenue officers who fail to stand by" but the chances are that nine times out of ten a lot of the very bunch who do the condemning and the damning are the first to reach the governor's side in behalf of the criminal. and then, if by grit and grace the judge, prison commision and governor succeed in standing firmly by the law, there is at once a wild rush to make the punishment just as light as possible; destroying the lash, abolishing the noose and reducing life sentence to a summer's vacation. It is a strange thing and one that Solomon would be likely to include among the things which he could not understand if he were here, is how any officer, judge, prison commission or govelnor ever succeeds in doing as well as they do in the face of such a mob. Lynching and outlawery is going to exist yea and grow worse the longer the criminal knows that he has an ally in this bunch of bottle-sucking men and crying women who are ever ready to come to their aid; minimizing their crimes, picturing the horribleness of the gallows and lynching but equally as ready to forget the hideousness of their crimes and seeking to make their punishment as light as possible. The cause of crime and lynch-law must not always lie wholly with the man who plunges the knife or pulls the rope. There are others who will share their fate with them when all men give account for the deeds done in a body.

And just as long as a community feels that it will not get justice at the hands of the law, thre will continue to be lynch-law. And just as soon as it becomes certain that a man who commits crime against society MUST pay the penalty **equal to his crime**, just so soon will the psychological thing occur. Not only will lynching be decreased, but the crimes which prompt the lynching will be reduced and officers of the law may be counted on to be more faithful to their duties. When officials are no longer nagged by those whom they know keep them in office; and when the criminal knows that there is no chance under heaven to escape the penalty of the law; when our citizens feel that they can count on the law being carried out and the criminal punished equal to his crime, then law enforcement leagues may take a permanent vacation. We are ready to reply that this should not be the situation and it shouldn't. Officials ought not to fear the votes of the people. Criminals ought to stop committing crime crime without being forced to. And lynchers ought to quit their lynching regardless of other people's actions; all because these acts are wrong. But WILL THEY DO IT?

My heart bleeds for the poor fellow to be hung, or who must say farewell to his parents as he leaves for the chain gang. I want to save him from those penalties, and his parents from their farewells. To this end I have pledged my life, my body, and my soul, and I hope to die in the effort, but it shall ever be to save the boy from the penalty before he commits the crime. Then I have not only prevented the penalty but the crime which is far the greater. And at the same time I am for abolishing lynch-law.

Lynchings—1923 77 White Press, (Georgia). 1466

Discussion.

CONSCIENCE OF GEORGIA!

On this page today is published a communication from John A. Manget, prominent Atlanta citizen and capitalist, commenting on an editorial in The Constitution referring to the barbarous act of two white men in Screven county in murdering, in a most unprovoked and barbarous manner, an inoffensive antebellum colored man whose physical infirmities prevented him from doing their bidding. 1-3-23

Mr. Manget offers a reward of $500 for "the apprehension and conviction of these Screven county brutes."

He calls attention, and very correctly so, to another deed of atrocity recently perpetrated almost in the shadow of the capitol dome—the dynamiting of the home of peaceful foreigners in Marietta, the little colony of Syrians being ordered to leave there under threats of death.

He also offers a reward of $500 for the conviction of the perpetrators of this crime.

Mr. Manget hits the nail squarely on the head when he says the men and women who love Georgia and who care to assist in redeeming her from the damnable slough of dishonor she is already in on account of such matters must "wake up and get to work."

The conscience of Georgia must be aroused to such an extent that mob violence and crime that tends toward barbarism shall cease.

The irresponsible element responsible for this condition, which is bringing reproach upon a state that is overwhelmingly populated by good and law-abiding people, is small; but like the drop of ink that can discolor the vessel of water, or the germ of disease that can threaten every organism of the human body, this element, though small, can throw Georgia into such a condition of terrorism that not only will the hundreds of thousands of law-abiding colored people who are here, and upon whom Georgia industry depends for its labor, be driven from the state, the exodus having already begun, but new capital will refuse to invest in such a section, and even thousands of progressive white citizens will leave if the security of their homes is to remain continually threatened by such a menace.

The conscience of Georgia! It must assert itself, and demand speedy and full justice, through the constituted channels, for all brutes of the type of the Screven murderers.

And this cannot be done until there is a more militant determination toward law enforcement all along the line, backed by thorough co-operation and co-ordination between the legislative, executive and judicial departments of the state.

There must be speedy trials of the accused. The guilty must pay the penalties without the embarrassments and obstructions of maudlin sentimentalists. The enforcement laws must be strengthened, and the conflicting statutes harmonized.

The state has no right, to illustrate, to license the delivery of a weapon of death to a person who is prohibited, by the same code, from carrying it.

Georgia can put a stop to this riot of lawlessness and terrorism; and it must.

We congratulate ourselves that the Dyer anti-lynching bill was recently defeated in congress. Why? Because the bill invaded the rights of states, and placed the crime of the mob within the jurisdiction of the federal courts. We shrink from further federal enforcement upon our state rights, and very justly so, **but if the state cannot cope with the mob situation, and bring to justice terrorists who take innocent lives at will, and who drive peace-loving residents from their homes, then we may expect the federal government to step in in the interest of protecting the lives and property of American citizens, as guaranteed under the federal constitution.**

If we desire to maintain the integrity of our time-honored creed of state rights we must show a ability to meet just such conditions of lawlessness as are bringing the good name of Georgia into disrepute throughout the country.

An aroused public conscience will put an end to Georgia's disgrace.

APPEAL OF EDUCATORS!

Atlanta Constitution 1-4-23

There is no mistaking the fact that the disgrace of lynching is a dark blot on the south. It is gratifying, therefore, that leading educators of the southern states have vigorously taken in hand the arousing of the public conscience to the necessity for such rigid enforcement of law that a stop can be put to this species of mob lawlessness. Atlanta Georgia

Recently a resolution was signed by eight state superintendents of education, eight presidents of state universities, 18 presidents of state technical and normal colleges, 25 presidents of privately endowed and denominational universities and colleges, and 24 professors in universities and colleges—all of them from southern states.

The resolution itself reads as follows:

"We, the undersigned, engaged in the work of education, earnestly appeal to all citizens to exert their influence constantly and actively in condemnation of the crime of lynching.

"We furthermore urge upon our state legislators and executives to enact, if necessary, and persistently to enforce, such laws as will tend to put a stop to this species of lawlessness."

Among the Georgia signers were Chancellor Barrow, of the university; Dr. Brittain, president of the Georgia School of Technology; Drs. R. P. Brooks, H. W. Cox, M. D. DuBose, Frank H. Gaines, Theo. H. Jack, A. S. Johnson, Franklin, N. Parker, and others.

When real leaders of the people—and educators of this caliber are real leaders—set themselves to put a stop to violence it is reasonable to assume that it will be gradually eliminated. Indeed the lynching custom in the south, certainly in the southeast, is already on the wane, and now is the psychological moment to renew activities toward congealing the sentiment of the people for the orderly enforcement of the laws by constituted authority instead of their violation by mobs.

The south has suffered much by reason of lynchings. It has been held up to the contempt of the world by reason of them, and the newspapers of other sections have unfortunately taken these incidents for flaring headline displays, often in conjunction with editorial rebukes in which these atrocities have been compared with the barbarism of Africa, or to the iniquitous barbarities of the eras of inquisition.

This has advertised the south bad instead of good, and this character of advertising has been seriously felt in the economics revolving around the south.

The overwhelming majority of the people of the south are law-abiding. They deplore mob violence of any character. They believe in the judiciary system, and believe that the safety and prosperity and happiness of the people depend on the protection afforded by constituted enforcement of law.

The strong arm of the law is ample to punish, and it will ferret out the guilty and punish to the extent of the law, if the people will sustain it and recognize its integrity. It is only by fidelity to constituted authority that government can stand, and nothing is so destructive to the orderly process of law enforcement as mobs of irresponsible men and boys who violate law under the misguided theory of "protecting society."

An orgy of mob violence is one of the most disgraceful blots upon a community or state, and its reaction tends to tear down that regard for law obedience in all instances that must be maintained in the interest of personal and institutional security.

The tendency of the times, more plainly evident in Georgia than ever before, is toward co-operation, co-ordination, harmony, and a closer understanding between all the people. Such a tendency must necessarily be reflected in a more orderly, systematic, constituted law enforcement.

It is more the opportunity to encourage such a course by education, counsel and the friendly touch of a greater general human sympathy.

Let's follow the lead of these distinguished educators of the south and so arouse the conscience of the people that mob law shall be a thing of the past, so far as Georgia is concerned.

The decent element of Georgia—and to this element the most of the people belong—has a responsibility in the premises that is too appealing to be temporized with.

END TO LYNCHING URGED BY WOMEN

Atlanta Constitution 4-10-23

Mrs. F. F. Stephens Made Leader of Methodist Missionary Council, Succeeding Miss Bennett.

Mobile, Ala., April 10.—A resolution calling upon the people of all southern states and upon the pulpit and the press to unite in an effort to stamp out lynching was adopted by the woman's missionary council of the Methodist church institution here late this afternoon. The adoption of the resolution followed an earnest address by Dr. W. W. Alexander, of Atlanta, chairman of the Methodist committee on inter-racial co-operation. The resolution was offered, it was stated, in view of the fact that the anti-lynching bill had failed to pass in the last congress.

Mrs. F. F. Stephens, of Columbus, Mo., who has been serving as acting president of the council since the death of Miss Belle H. Bennett, several months ago, was elected president of the council at its session here today. Mrs. Stephens has been presiding over the session here. Her election was made unanimous after the balloting showed that she had 61 out of 85 votes.

Will Close Today.

The next meeting place of the council will be selected at the session tonight. The conference will close Wednesday, after being in session for a week.

The resolution offered by Dr. W. W Alexander, of Atlanta, Ga., chairman of the Methodist committee on an inter-racial co-operation project calling on the people of the southern states, the pulpit and press to suppress lynching was as follows:

"Whereas, the defeat of the Dyer anti-lynching bill, which provided for federal control of lynching, has thrown the whole responsibility back upon each state for removing this hideous crime; therefore,

"Be it resolved, that the women's Missionary council of the Methodist Episcopal church, south, in annual session at Mobile, Ala., April 4-11, 1923, do now demand of the authorities of the several states that they

make good their claim by proving their competency to abolish mob violence and lynching.

"That we assume our responsibility as citizens for the protection of human life, and hereby call upon all the people of all the states, upon the pulpit and the press, to join against barbarous practices."

Plan Adopted.

The plan adopted to obtain the objects for which the resolution was adopted provides for a study of lynching on the part of each local society, for an effort to secure in each state such special legislation as may be needed to prevent mob violences, for active co-operation with the officials in bringing to justice any who may indulge in lynchings for the continued effort to develop in each community such a spirit as will make mob violences impossible, and, to this end, co-operate with other religious organizations.

Dr. Alexander declared that lynching is a disease prevalent in some communities and in some states and that the malady spreads very rapidly. He refuted the accusation that it is common to the old south, or the best class of southern people, stating that in the older southern communities, there is less, or none of such law violations.

He also pointed out that lynchings are less prevalent in the black belt than in sections where there is a sparce population of negroes. Dr. Alexander also said that lynchings are not necessary, if they were they would never have been practically discontinued in South Carolina, he stated. The speaker asserted that, although leaders and members of mobs claim to be protecting white women when committing mob lawlessness, the statistics show that only one-fourth of the lynchings perpetrated are for crimes involving women.

THE ARKANSAS MOB.

Atlanta Constitution
1-20-23

So far as the maintenance of the law is concerned—and this should be the first consideration of every right-thinking citizen—there is no difference between the mob that hanged a railroad striker in Arkansas and the mob of union sympathizers who brutally killed mine guards and officials at Herrin, Ill.

It was mob violence—mob murder in both cases—and there are no circumstances that extenuate the mob anywhere at any time in its rampages in defiance of constituted authority.

The law does not know the color line. It does not recognize the caste system.

Under it, full and complete justice is supposed to be meted to white and black, rich and poor, employer and employee, producer and consumer—everybody has a right to feel the strong arm of the law in defense of home and life and limb, and in the security of performing one's chosen activities, so long as they are legal; and on the other hand, under it society is to be protected by the apprehension and punishment of offenders, according to the rules of justice, and the penalties prescribed.

Unless mob violence is stopped, whether in Arkansas or Illinois or Georgia, this country will have fastened upon it a law giving federal jurisdiction to such cases; and however vigorously such jurisdiction will strike at the very basis of our cherished state rights, the federal congress cannot be blamed for refusing to temporize indefinitely with a situation that is intolerable.

Savannah, Ga. News
MAR 4 1923

ONE BRAVE MAN.

Sheriff Hagan, down at Palatka, Fla., is a man. He not only declined to permit a mob to take a prisoner from his jail, but he went so far as to stop a bullet fired by a member of it and to fire a shotgun in the direction of his not very brave visitors, and then to identify a dozen members of the mob. That is a good day's work for a sheriff. He did his duty, the duty he swore he would do. Not all of a sheriff's duty is the arresting of persons against whom warrants are issued, and serving papers and attending court terms. There are times when he has to risk his life before those who have disrespect for law, and there are times when he must face imminent death to make the law respected. Sheriff Hagan is that sort of sheriff and he deserves to be told that he has won very wide respect for his bravery not only, but also for his conception of what a sheriff should be and do.

Too many officers of the law there are who come to the public, after a lynching, and say they were overpowered, that the mob had pistols and blood would have been shed if it had been opposed. What's the use of having a sheriff who is not willing to shed his own blood in defense of the law? What's the use of having a sheriff who is not willing, in the last desperate resource, to shed somebody else's blood in his defense of the law? Lynchers know they are acting in violation of law; they would very rarely go out after a sheriff and his deputies and try to take a prisoner from them if they knew the officers would not give in tamely to the mob's demands. The sheriff at Palatka looked into the muzzles of pistols but that did not cow him. He put up a defense, and although he was wounded and the life of his daughter put in jeopardy, he fought, not alone for the negro prisoner he was supposed to be guarding, but for the majesty of the law. And he won, simply because a brave man can whip a mob that is acting outside the law.

It has happened many times that one brave officer has prevented the insult to the law, the attack upon the law, that the mob contemplates

Think calmly of the effort of a group of men to take a prisoner from a sheriff and lynch him. What do you think of an officer of the law who will not face a mob? What do you think of an officer of the law who will not put up a fight, regardless of the odds against him? He should not be an officer of the law, for only men who are willing to uphold their oaths to defend the law should be put up as its defenders. It is not their duty to decide against defense. It is their duty to defend—to the last.

The prospect is that some members of the Palatka mob will be punished. That will be right. They deserve to be, and Palatka should not be satisfied until they are punished. A community that is satisfied to have a brave sheriff wounded, his daughter brought into danger of death, its jail riddled with bullets, and then to sit down and explain everything away by saying that "it was only a mob trying to get a negro" is not much of a community; the Morning News does not think Palatka is that sort of place. The outlook is that the sheriff is going to be brave enough to stand by his identification of members of the mob and that there will be brave enough men in Palatka, with his courageous example before them, to serve as jurors and return the sort of verdict the evidence may demand. This business of a crowd of private persons attacking a jail, shooting it up with bullets, fighting an officer of the law, shooting him, and all that, has got to stop in the South. The idea has got to be accepted everywhere that the majesty of the law of a Southern state is too high to be attacked by any group of private persons. And such brave officers as Sheriff Hagan can go a long way toward making that idea accepted by everybody.

Columbus, Ga. Enquirer-Sun
White Southern Press
MAR 3 - 1923

Sheriff Prevents Lynching

Lynching is something in the nature of a disease—a preventable disease. About 99 out of every 100 cases of lynching could be prevented. The reason why they are not is that those who ought to prevent them, those whose duty it is to prevent them, are remiss in the discharge of their duty.

In the news columns of the ENQUIRER-SUN this morning appears an Associated Press dispatch from Gainesville, Fla., that shows how lynching can be prevented. In the county jail at Gainesville are nineteen men who are charged with being members of a mob that attempted unsuccessfully to storm the Putnam county, Fla., jail, located at Palatka, supposedly to take from it a negro charged with slaying a man.

When the mob appeared the sheriff, with a single deputy, was in charge of the jail, and the sheriff promptly shoved one of the members of the mob aside, and slammed the door in his face and in the faces of the others, after they had fired a broadside of shots from revolvers and shotguns at the door and windows of the jail.

The sheriff then seized an automatic shotgun and proceeded to open fire on the mob in such a manner as to convince those composing it that he meant real business. The consequence was that the mob scattered, leaving Palatka, and going in the direction of Gainesville, where the sheriff of Alachua county arrested seven men as they arrived and later took the rest at their homes.

The point is that sheriffs can prevent lynchings when they will do it. All they need is courage, which this Putnam county sheriff showed he had. If he had been less courageous than is indicated by the dispatch from Gainesville the probabilities are that Florida would this morning have had another lynching to her discredit.

And it is the sworn duty of every sheriff to protect his prisoners from violence. No matter who may undertake to violate the law the sheriff should, under his oath and under his duty as a citizen, uphold it. And the sheriff who fails or refuses to do this should be ousted from office. He is not fit to be sheriff.

In this connection it may be well enough to say that every jail should be equipped with such means of defense as that in the hands of the Putnam county sheriff at Palatka. With a determined and courageous man behind such a gun he can prevent mobs accomplishing their purpose. He is doubly armed, for in addition to this means of defense, his cause is just.

Columbus, Ga. Enquirer-Sun
Lutheran
MAR 5 - 1923

MAY HIS TRIBE INCREASE!

(Cordele Dispatch.)

Sheriff Hogan, of Putnam county, Florida, is the hero of the hour today. He may go on down the years unsung, but just the same, he is the hero for whom we have been searching this country. He held his own against the regulation mob—saved his prisoner, the jail and the good name of the law. And he has succeeded in jailing the larger number of those who were trying to establish mob law.

He may never claim an honor for having done his duty as an officer—he is the kind of man who apparently had understood his duty before hand, and went at it fearlessly. He must have taken into faithful account before he assumed the duties of the office that he might be required to hold his charge against just such a mob. He seemed to be ready to make his stand—for it was made in such a manner as to reveal that this is a real hero. We doubt if our own young soldiers in the battle lines in France ever had a call for reserve courage more real than this man had in defeating the mob.

We honor him with this tribute because he was a man—and we believe the sober, self-respecting citizenship of his state and all the south whose esteem is worth having will long remember and appreciate this officer of the law as the kind the south needs more than any other.

And we have to pass this incident with the intimation that the medicine of this sheriff in repeated doses will break up mob law more effectively than all the eloquence of the press. Half a dozen sheriffs in Georgia with this man's courage can obliterate the mob. We vote for Sheriff Hogan of Putnam county, Florida. Here's a handshake and a hearty word of encouragement. There is no law that justifies the mob. The crime may be ever so horrible, but society has its peaceful methods of handling the criminal. This sheriff has shown that he understood what organized society expected of him when he went after the mob. May his tribe increase!

Lynchings—1923
Discussion

White Press, (Illinois).

17 1464

PEORIA ILL TRANSCRIPT
JANUARY 22, 1923

LYNCHING AS AN INSTITUTION.

Investigation of lynching by federal commission is the proposal of Senator Frelinghuysen in a resolution he has introduced in the senate, and which has been referred to the judiciary committee. It provides for establishment of a commission of five, to be appointed by the president and to serve without pay, but to have an appropriation of fifty thousand dollars at its disposal for expenses. The commission is to study, fully, the causes of lynching, make deductions as to remedies, and present recommendations for legislation to curb the evil at the session of the new congress.

Lynching has become a national institution. Yet the history of the senate in regard to the problem is not that which instills confidence that Senator Frelinghuysen's resolution will get past the committee stage. Democratic senators from the south have already indicated their intention to fight the proposal, and it is probable that even if the resolution is passed, the commission's report will be accepted and placed on file with scant pretense of consideration by the legislators.

Defeat of the Dyre anti-lynching bill in the senate, discloses the upper house is not disposed to become paternalistic over the problem if there can be any other solution. Opposition to the bill came chiefly from southern senators, who based their fight on its claimed invasion of state's rights. After the bill's defeat, newspapers throughout the south, among the "The Atlanta Georgian," "The Raleigh News and Observer," "The Charleston Post," "The Savannah News," "The Atlanta Constitution," "The Ashville Citizen," and "The Ashville Times," pointed out the problem of preventing lynching was again put up to the states, and that the vidication of state's rights contained in the defeat would be empty unless the states kept their implied promise to make good.

How well they made good may be determined from the record of lynching which mars the last few months of last year, and the early days of this year. In the first three days of 1923 there were three lynchings. Herrin and Mer Rouge are still rankling current events. The lynchings early this year occurred in Florida, Mississippi and Louisiana, yet there is no evidence that anything is being done to punish the lynchers. Last week, an Arkansas mob strung up a railroad worker after a trial before a "citizens' committee." The hooded figures, popularly believed to be Klansmen, who have taken part in more notorious cases of lynch law, have lent an element of efficiency and preparation to what otherwise was a crime committed in the heat of mob passion.

Lynching is distinctively American. Other nations may have riots. Occasionally their military runs amuck and becomes a mob, as in revolutionary times. As a rule, however, mob fury against defenseless persons is confined to the United States. Only the canibal islands have anything which remotely compares with it in pure savagary.

Still, we will not welcome paternalistic intervention. We nurse zealously, especially in the regions where lynching borders on the commonplace, the rights of the state to guard the interests of its citizens. We permit international scandal because local officials have not the courage to face a mob, or because the federal government lacks jurisdiction.

Lynching has become an institution. If the federal commission can find any way to abolish it without treading on the rights of the states, the commission should be invoked.

SPRINGFIELD MORNING
FEBRUARY 6, 1923

Never a Lynching Here

The statement issued by the Commission on the Church and Race Relations of the Federal Council of Churches, naming Massachusetts among the four States of the Union that have never had a lynching, calls attention to one of the many distinctions that give this proud old Commonwealth high rank among her sister States, and that make it so easily possible for her sons and daughters to have faith in Massachusetts.

The three States named as sharing with Massachusetts the honor of never having had a lynching are New Hampshire, Vermont and Rhode Island, all New England States, by the way. The statement goes on to say that only three other States have had no lynchings since 1889, these being Connecticut, New Jersey and Utah, and in addition to the seven herein named there are only nine States that have had a clean record as to lynchings in the last ten years. The nine, as listed in the Federal Council's statement, are Nevada, Colorado, Minnesota, Iowa, Wisconsin, Michigan, Indiana, Delaware and Pennsylvania.

It will be noticed that one New England State, Maine, is not included in this list, which is equivalent to saying that some time within the last ten years there has been a lynching in Maine. If that is a fact, many persons will have difficulty in recalling it. It is, of course, possible that through an error in transcription of the Commission's report the State of Maine was inadvertently omitted in the statement given out by the Federal Council of Churches, in which event it is likely that Maine will be heard from in short order and with emphasis.

However, though all New England is not included in the clean bill of health, it is gratifying to find no fewer than four of the six States with spotless records, and Massachusetts one of the four. It speaks well for the survival in this corner of the country of the respect for and obedience to the law which constitutes a citizen's first duty to the State, and without which no form of government can long endure. Let us keep the record unsullied.

NEWS DEMOCRAT
BELLEVILLE ILL.
MAY 1, 1923

A Lynching Does More Good Than a Legal Execution by Long Odds—It Generally Deals Out Rough Justice Along Natural Lines, and Calls the Crowd, Young and Old, to Witness the Infliction of Punishment in Order That Others Similarly Disposed May Profit by the Example—Lynchings Occur Wherever the Causes of These Tragedies are Brought Into Play—Under Like Conditions the Crowd Acts the Same in Maine as it Does in California; in Illinois as it Does in Texas; in Missouri as it Does in Georgia or Tennessee—Lynchings are Outbursts of Nature for Which Those are Responsible Who Cause Them—Not the Lynchers, But the Criminals Cause Them—Read Gustav Le Bon's Wonderful Book "The Psychology of the Crowd."

In an editorial which we printed in this column, Monday, we discussed the ultra-respectables and super-righteous across the river, who were so terribly shocked at mob violence in Williamson County, Illinois, and at the failure of the courts to punish the lynchers, that they are not over their indignation and disgust, yet, over the lives that were lost and the blood that was spilt during the Herrin terror.

We tried to make the point clear that the tears which these Pharisees are shedding over this, the deepest and saddest of recent Illinois tragedies, are largely crocodile tears, and that these pious-faced and deacon-frocked and unco-good hypocrites are really engaged in rubbing it in.

They see the mote in the brother's eye but behold not the beam in their own.

They are shocked because the mob at Herrin was composed of laboring men.

Murders committed in Illinois horrify them, while the bloody deeds of desperate gun-men in St. Louis, committed in dark chambers, in moonshine joints, and on the open highways of the county and of the city, fease them not and are merely conventional offenses incident in a sporting tournament, like accidents in base-ball or basket-ball or volley-ball or foot-ball or high-ball or mud-ball or bowling or automobiling or aviating or golf.

We knew that our day would come to get back at these four-flushers and holier-than-thou polly-wogs, and we were just loafing on the job biding our time until they lynched the nigger in Columbia, Mo., the city where the State University is located, the seat of culture of the Missouri pukes.

Mob outbreaks and lynchings do not affect us as they do the

super-sensitive and the overly finicky and the angelic wing sprouters who are shaping their lives to be in readiness to navigate earth's atmosphere, without plane or blimp, when the great day comes for their eternal flying tournament to commence.

But we couldn't help but get back at our self-constituted critics, to point out to them the universality of truth by apt analogy and striking contrast and to crack them one square between the eyes with our tightly clenched right fist, and follow that for a finish with an uppercut aimed unerringly for the jaw with the left.

The Bible says that a frank confession is good for the soul.

We believe in that doctrine as we do in all Bible doctrine, and live true to our faith.

Let us frankly confess, therefore, that we are firmly convinced that Jim Scott, the negro janitor of the Medical Building at Columbia University in Missouri, got exactly what he deserved, notwithstanding his protestations of innocence of the crime of which he stood accused, when he was pushed from the bridge with a rope around his neck and caught and suspended in mid-air with a broken neck last Sunday morning.

This black brute followed an innocent and unsuspecting fourteen-year-old white girl, the daughter of one of the Professors of the institution, and in a concealed and hidden place he choked this child by drawing the leather belt, which he removed from his belly for the purpose, around her throat and stuffed his dirty handkerchief into her mouth to prevent her from making an outcry, and then proceeded to carry out his bestial work, until he was interrupted and his purpose was thwarted through accident; the murder of his victim prevented and her life saved.

The crime was committed in broad daylight and with the greatest deliberation, and it is not probable that the girl could have been mistaken about the identification of her assailant.

She knew the skunk and pointed him out and recoiled from his very presence when he was brought before her eyes, recognizing even his voice when she heard him speaking in another room.

This janitor was not only a rape-fiend but he was an agitating nigger of the worst kind, because he told the girl while he attacked her, that his aim was to get even with the white race for an imaginary wrong which he had suffered, or at least said he had.

His denials and his protestations of innocence were nothing more than welching.

Like causes produce like effects.

Gustav Le Bon, the great French philosopher in his "Psychology of the Crowds," shows what all crowds will do, given the same conditions, whether composed of preachers, lawyers, Y. M. C. A. secretaries, Salvationists or coal miners or farmers or other laboring men.

Why didn't the speeches of the Circuit Judge and of the Prosecuting Attorney and of the father of the girl save the accused negro?

We need not tell you.

They begged for the law to be permitted to take its course.

The leaders of that mob did not believe that either the Circuit Judge or the Prosecuting Attorney meant what he said, and they considered them both liars and false pretenders and frightened four-flushers.

They knew that these politicians would not and did not intend to keep their promises.

They went right on and did the job and they didn't save the nigger, even if the promises of the Circuit Judge would be kept for a Roman Holiday and a hangfest for the Sheriff to pull off, to which to invite his friends, and for a religious orgie in the interests of soul-saving and arranging meetings for the scoundrel and scamp with deities in Paradise after the legal execution and private hemp-stretching party was over.

The people have lost their confidence in Courts, and they realize that for punishment to be effective, it must be sure, infallible and certain, and it must follow close upon the heels of the commission of the crime.

Legal executions are pulled off within enclosures just large enough to hold the sheriff's coterie of favorite individuals and ticket-holders whom he has invited to the law-authorized killing of the culprit where the law is vindicated by order and routine of the court and blessed by the parson.

All the crowd that wants to can witness the lynchings where the Sheriff and the Circuit Judge and the Prosecutor are compelled to stand off, or to go away back to some rock or stump and sit down, and witness the solemn ceremony as it was done by the people themselves, reverting to first principles and to a state of nature.

That's the way our early forefathers performed the job when the race was in its childhood, and before the artificialities and the conventions of our alleged civilization had set in to disturb the equilibrium, and protect and encourage the criminal at the expense of the victim, and the cost of society to which he was an enemy, and to spoil the strong.

If the purpose of punishment is to deter others from committing similar crimes, a first-class lynching is ten times as effective as a politely conducted legal execution, with the Bible and the prayerbook as the consoler, and bottled in bond whiskey as the soothener and appeaser.

We don't blame the people of Columbia, Missouri, for rising in their might and really demonstrating the majesty of the law, and as it is conceived by them, and executed by the people's own hands, and showing that they still have guts and grit and robust manhood left!

The only thing that we ask of Missourians is that they quit being double-crossers and Pharisees and hypocrites when it comes to judging Illinois affairs, and that they treat us as fairly and as candidly as they expect us to treat them.

The average lynching does more good by ten thousand per cent than all of the hangings which are pulled off by the Sheriff with his hand-picked political crowd for the witnesses, and himself as the nerve-wracked victim, who has to take a ten days' rest to French Lick after every hanging he pulls off, or at least go on a spree for a week with white-mule and home-brew as the sedatives to steady his disturbed and distracted nerves.

Widespread Violence by Mobs.

For some years previous to 1923 reports on the lynching evil in the strict sense of the phrase indicated steady moral improvement. Education and appeals to public sentiment appeared to be producing encouraging results. Of late, however, a sinister recrudescence of mob law and mob violence has challenged the attention of the authorities of several southern states. Kidnaping and flogging "parties" have been perniciously active, and many wanton outrages have been perpetrated.

These cowardly acts of barbarism may be the result of malice or of fanatical self-righteousness. In any event they constitute a shameful reflection upon the psychological processes of the American people.

Whatever the cause or causes of the epidemic of outrages, there is only one possible course for self-respecting citizens to adopt. They should vigorously and effectively support the public officials who are seeking to put down mob violence. The churches, the civic and commercial bodies, the educational institutions, the press and the farmer and labor organizations of the states affected by this plague should enlist actively in the campaign against the bands of kidnapers and floggers.

CHICAGO ILL. CHRISTIAN CEN.
MAY 17. 1923

Women of South Condemn Lynching

At its annual meeting in Mobile, Ala. April 4-11, the delegates of the Woman' Missionary Council of the M. E. Church, South, representing about 250,000 of the South's most influential women, expressed in most vigorous terms their condemnation of lynching, and adopted plans for active efforts to abolish it. The plans adopted for action by their own numbers throughout their connection provide for a study of lynching by each local society of the Council, for efforts to secure in each state such legislation as may be needed, for vigilance to prevent mob violence, for active co-operation with officials in bringing the members of mobs to justice, and "for a sustained effort to develop in each community a spirit of goodwill that will make such crimes impossible." In pursuance of these ends the Council and its constituent societies will "seek the co-operation of all other religious and civic groups."

CHICAGO ILL. JOURNAL
JUNE 21. 1923

No Lynching in Savannah

White officials and soldiers at Savannah, Ga., beat back a mob, undoubtedly composed in the main of white men, that sought to lynch a young negro charged with criminal assault on a white woman.

If mobs could know in advance that they would be met in this fashion, there would be no mobs. If the negro is guilty of the crime charged, he can be hanged under the laws of Georgia, and probably will be hanged. In that case no one save the criminal and his family will object. Whereas, if he had been lynched, the colored people of the entire south would have felt that mob murder as an attack on the security of their race.

Lynchings — 1923
Discussion

White Press, (Indiana)

1278

1278

SOUTH BEND IND TRIBUNE
APRIL 30, 1923

CLING TO POSSE JUSTICE.

That lynching at the University of Missouri was an exhibition of mob violence which proves again—as if proof were needed—that posse justice is preferred in the south. The Negro was suspected of an attempt to commit a felonious assault upon the 14 year old daughter of a teacher in the university. The intent had not been carried out; but in the south the intent to commit is sufficient reason for summary capital punishment. So, in spite of the entreaties of the father of the girl, the mob, which included a number of students, stormed the jail, burned its way through doors with torches, terrified the sheriff, seized the suspect and hanged him from a railroad trestle. It is assumed that they hanged the right Negro though the evidence on which he was executed was not convincing beyond a doubt.

Nobody can have anything but the deepest horror for assaults on women and children, whether by whites or blacks; and whenever they are committed or whenever attempts to commit are discovered the most drastic and relentless execution of the law should follow as soon as possible. However, citizens never take the law into their own hands, no matter what the provocation, without by that act repudiating their government and inviting its overthrow. The south—and the north, too, for that matter—must rise above the mob stage. The lynching is one of the things that stamps the south as comparatively unadvanced.

Lynchings—1923

White Press, (Kentucky).

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[illegible] POST
MARCH 29, 1923

THE LYNCHING EVIL

"The challenge which lynching brings to the churches" is the subject of a thoughtful article in the Federal Council Bulletin, the argument being that those who believe that religion can and should influence for the better the life of our country should unite to remove this dark stain upon its good name.

The subject is timely and the argument impressive. Lynching in America amounts to a national disgrace, and we have not yet found a way to break it up. And not only is this true, but there are many more lynchings in the country, where the church is proportionately stronger, than in the cities. That this is largely due to the fact that the cities employ disciplined police departments and are thus able to control mobs, is true; and yet we agree with this Christian writer that the "Churches of Christ" owe it to themselves and the country to oppose this great evil.

Various plans have been suggested for fighting lynch law in America. There was pending before the last Congress what was known as the Dyer bill, which proposed to give to the Federal courts concurrent authority to proceed against lynchers with the State courts. The constitutionality of the Dyer bill was questioned, and it did not get through. For one the Post has no objection to the Dyer bill. We grant that the proper place to punish offenders against State laws are State courts; but if the State courts cannot do it we would like to see the Federal courts try it. They might not succeed. The juries would be drawn from the same people. The Dyer bill may be worth trying, but it is unwise to expect too much.

II.

Turning back to the Church Council, we find that it makes the following suggestions to Christian citizens to help to abolish the lynching evil and to secure Christian relations between the races:

1. As voters, they can help directly to secure adequate legislation against lynching. Legislatures generally act in about the way they think expresses the real wishes of their constituencies.

2. In order to make it possible for lynchers to be prosecuted properly they may contribute to funds for legal aid of competent legal counsel to secure and present the necessary evidence. The Commission on Interracial Co-operation, with headquarters at the Palmer Building, Atlanta, Ga., is one of the agencies in a position to receive and make effective use of such contributions.

3. They can help to create a better public opinion by influencing local newspapers to take a fair and just attitude on racial questions. In other ways they can join with others in creating a public opinion which will bring participants in mobs to trial.

There is not much that is new here; but there is no objection to be made to any of it. We do not know that it is necessary to do much work to "influence local newspapers to take a fair and just attitude on racial questions." Our observation is that most of the newspapers in America are already disposed to be fair and just in this matter. But it helps the newspapers along when their readers make clear that their sympathies, too, are enlisted in such fights. The Post proposes to fight lynch law, with or without local encouragement; for it is an evil that must be eradicated if our country is to remain civilized.

Suggestions 1 and 2 are perhaps more practical, notably the proposal that voters unite to secure "adequate legislation" against lynching. The only difficulty here is to find out what legislation will be adequate. So deep-rooted an evil may not easily be broken up by "legislation," but "legislation" may help, and we should take counsel together to ascertain the most effective method.

Several years ago certain ardent crusaders against lynch law made themselves believe that they had solved the problem through laws providing for the automatic removal of peace officers who permitted prisoners in their charge to be lynched. Laws of that kind have been passed in a number of States, and they have proven a good deal of a disappointment. Suppose a jailer in a certain county does, without a contest, surrender a prisoner to a mob of lynchers, and the automatic removal law operates to oust him from office. A vacancy then exists, and that vacancy can usually be filled by some local appointing officer. The power of appointment is used to put the wife or the son of the former conuty officer in the place. Nothing is accomplished.

III.

Is the problem then insoluble? The Post does not think so. We have a suggestion to make, not, indeed, altogether original with us, but good. If the Post could have its way it would provide for an automatic tax of considerable proportions against each county wherein a lynching takes place, the money to go to the school fund. Would you punish the taking of human life with a monetary fine? someone will ask. Certainly. That would not bar criminal prosecutions. But as things stand the great mass of people are indifferent. A lynching takes place in their county and they pay no attention. But let the law provide that each property holder must pay if the county officers he helps to elect permit men to be murdered by mobs, and some people will sit up and take notice.

This is only one suggestion. It is a good one, however, and should not be lost sight of. In the meantime it is encouraging to know that the Federal Council of Churches is prepared to help fight lynch law.

Lynchings—1923
Discussion

White Press, (Louisiana.)

1302

Donaldsonville La. Chief
Feb. 24, 1923

ERADICATION OF LYNCHING SEEN

That the lynching evil is steadily being reduced, both as to numbers and area, and that its eradication is only a matter of years, is the substance of a statement given out by the Commission on Interracial Cooperation in Atlanta, as the result of a careful study of the lynching record for the past forty years. During that period, the statements points out, lynching have occurred in forty-four states, in as many as thirty-three in a sinlge year, (1892), and in an average of twenty-one states a year, whereas in 1921 only thirteen states had lynchings and in 1922 only ten. This indicates that the habit is being gradually pushed off the map.

The number of victims also has steadily decreased, with slight variations, from the high mark of 255 in 1892 to 57 last year, the latter figure being only about half the annual average for the forty year period, which was 109. In addition, it is pointed out that there has been a notable decrease in the lynching habit in the states where it still persists. Last year's record represents a decrease of 27 per cent from the forty year annual average of 79 for the same ten states.

The figures for certain states where special efforts have been made to curb lynching are cited as particularly encouraging in their assurance that the habit can be overcome when public sentiment and law unite against it For example, Alabama with a yearly average of eight lynchings for the forty years, has cut the number to two. Tennessee, with an average of six, had but two last year, and a total of only five in the last four years. Oklahoma and South Carolina, each with an average of four, had but one each in 1922. Louisiana, with an average of nine, has cut the record to three. North Carolina, Virginia, Missouri and Kentucky, each averaging from two to five victims per year for forty years past, has not a single one in 1922.

It was pointed out that in several states special legislation has been enacted and found very helpful in curbing lynching, among the most effective measures being a state constabulary under the control of the governor, as in Alabama and Tennessee, and provision for the removal of officers who surrender prisoners to mobs, as in Alabama, Florida, Kentucky and South Carolina. These two measures consistently applied, says the commission, will make it possible for any state to reduce lynching to the vanishing point.

Lynching Must Stop

New York. — Representative L. C. Dyer, of Missouri, sponsor of the anti-lynching bills bearing his name, is to tour the middle west in behalf of the bill which he intends to introduce in the next congress. The announcement was made by the National Assn. for the Advancement of Colored People, 70 Fifth Ave.

"I intend to see if a small minority of men in the U. S. senate can block an expression of the will of the people of this nation," Dyer said.

Lynchings—1923
Discussion.

White Press, (Maryland)

1303

BALTIMORE MD NEWS
JANUARY 18, 1923

Lynch Law

This, as every reader of things which people say for publication must know, is unquestionably the greatest and most enlightened nation on the face of the earth. The decadent Europeans and the barbarous Asiatics are clearly not in the running with us. The high state of our civilization, in fact, is so well-established and so generally recognized that it is perhaps not worth while to argue the point; but a casual glance at the front pages may lead one to curious reflections upon the nature of civilization.

In Illinois men are on trial for a wholesale murder of unparalleled barbarity, the culminating event in a private war which from start to finish was largely reminiscent of some of the worst things in the Dark Ages. In Louisiana an inquiry is being conducted into an act of mob violence for which one must return through four or five centuries to find a comparison. The good citizens of Arkansas have just vindicated their belief in law, order and common justice by taking out a man and hanging him to a railroad trestle—this being their gentle contribution toward the settlement of an industrial difficulty. The moralists of Goose Creek, Texas, have shown their sense of fairness by attacking in overpowering numbers a man and a woman and flogging them. A general belief seems to be spreading slowly through the country that the way to deal with anyone who annoys you or with whom you disagree is to collect a pack so large that you will be perfectly safe and then set upon the offender and beat, torture or kill him as the mood happens to strike you and your courageous associates.

The thing about all this is not, of course, the violence which it entails, but the indecency. If the stories are true, the old West was not strong on law and order, but it was at least populated by men. There was no objection to your murdering a man, if you could beat him on the draw—but you had to beat him on the draw. You couldn't go off and collect a gang of cowards and come back and shoot him when he wasn't looking. One can, if need be, get along on little law and almost no order, but no social structure can survive without a modicum of common fairness and ordinary toleration. And the decrease in both fairness and toleration is one of the most alarming characteristics of the modern scene.

It is to be seen not only in actual mob murders. The mobs are only the physical manifestation of the spirit of suppression, intolerance, intellectual violence, which can be found breathing everywhere from the dishearteningly lurid pages of the radical sheets to the desperately unintelligent conservatism of the "Bourbons." The cry of "Lynch him!" is not confined to those who go on real lynching parties. The ideal that one should first of all be fair, and should take one's chances on being also successful, is slowly evaporating before the belief that the only thing that matters is to get the other fellow at all cost.

SPRINGFIELD M. REPUBLICAN
DECEMBER 25, 1923

The Decline in Lynchings

With the year lasting one more week there is still time for a lynching or two. The 1923 record, however, up to date, is remarkably low and will surely go into the annual lynching statistics as a notable record of progress. In 1922 there were 61 lynchings in the United States; this year there have been but 26. A reduction of over 100 per cent in these atrocities is not normal, as study of the statistics since 1889 clearly shows, and a swing backward next year would not be surprising.

The annual lynching totals in recent years runs as follows, beginning with 1908: 102, 87, 66, 67, 63, 86, 70, 74, 71, 64, 52, 69, 54, 38, 64, 83, 61, 26. The encouraging aspect of these figures is the general downward tendency, although a marked drop one year has usually been followed by an increase. In the 15 years before 1903 the lynching totals were almost wholly in the hundreds, reaching as high as 208 in the year 1892 and 135 in a year as late as 1901. There has unquestionably been great improvement if the 33-year period since 1890 be studied. This broad fact greatly encourages the hope that the remarkable drop this year to the lowest number of lynchings in any year for a whole generation, during which the country's population has vastly increased, is not a transitory phenomenon of no moral significance.

The cause of the decline this year is thought to be specially connected with the anxiety of the southern whites to check the northern migration of the Negroes. No one could dispute the effect of such a feeling, but the Negro migration has been ii. progress for some six years without much of any appreciable effect on lynchings until 1923. Viewing the past 33 years as a whole, one feels justified in believing that the American people are coming more and more to appreciate the moral peril to their civilization of the bestial indulgence in mob murders which has so terribly disgraced them in the past, and are slowly getting a strangle hold on this national evil.

Lynchings - 1923
Discussion

White Press. (Massachusetts).

1279

SPRINGFIELD MASS EVE UNI
FEBRUARY 14, 1923

Lynchings Go On

In Waco, Texas, a Negro, said to have confessed to eight murders, is being protected from a mob. It is not at all impossible that in that mob are men who lynched another Negro for one of the crimes that this man has confessed to.

What must be the reaction of the lyncher who discovers that his victim was innocent? Though the custom of the South may not allow his being held for murder, he is guilty of murder just the same. Not only that, for the lyncher of a guilty man is none the less a murderer, but he is guilty of a crime which may in no way be justified.

Yet lynching will go on. Innocent victims will be offered up to appease the wrath of the mob. Illegal and brutal though it may be, degrading though it is, it seems to resist all attempts to stamp it out. There are times when we seem to be little justified in pointing too scornful a finger at the Turk.

SPRINGFIELD M NORN UNI
JANUARY 25, 1923

New Policy in the South

The short-sighted policy that has ruled the South since the emancipation proclamation is apparently producing the reaction that was inevitable from a denial of the rights of the Negro. Lynchings, failure of the courts to give the black man redress for his wrongs, the terrors of the night-riding mobs and exclusion from the polls by various subterfuges are factors that have brought about a remarkable hegira of Negroes from the States where their labor is indispensable to full production of farm and factory.

Leaving the sunny South by thousands, these people who have become convinced that there is no hope that they will be permitted to live in peace and reasonable security created a new problem for the South. Estimates from railway officials and others in position to grasp the extent of this exodus place the departures of Negroes for the North, West and Middle States in the last ninety days at 50,000 and the volume of emigration is daily increasing.

The course of the ruling elements of the white populations of the former slave States has seemed to be directed toward making the Southern States as nearly as possible exclusively a "white man's country." Every measure that the ingenuity of the white politicians could devise has been put in effect to discourage any aspiration that the black man might feel to rise above the virtual serfdom of the tenant-farmer system; to acquire an education or to exercise the fundamental rights of a citizen and voter. In many parts of the South night riders have posted placards warning the entire Negro populations of towns or villages to leave the vicinity on pain of death by torture. The recrudescence of the Ku Klux Klan with its avowed object of enforcing by its own methods its idea of "white supremacy" has added to the incentive for removal to the regions in which lynching is not a highly esteemed outdoor sport.

All the indications heretofore have been that the Negro's presence was not desired in the Southern States; that he was tolerated only by the ungracious acceptance of a people unwilling to exert themselves to drive him forth. It has long been apparent to those who have studied the industrial and agricultural condition of the South that whether they appreciated the fact or not the Southern people were dependent upon the Negro labor supply for such measure of general prosperity as they might achieve. At last the light is breaking upon the long darkened minds of the publicists of the region affected.

Southern white men of influence and sound judgment are now pleading: "Stop the exodus of Negroes that is bringing down upon the Southland the calamity of insufficient labor to carry forward the agriculture and industry of the section. The plight of the South when the Negro shall have ceased to sustain his present place in the economic situation can only be compared to that in which our section found itself in Civil War times when 500,000 Negroes fled to the North."

Among those who are seeking to stem the tide of emigration is Dr. David C. Barrow, chancelor of the University of Georgia. Another Southern man of national prominence who sees disaster for the South in the present movement is former-Gov. Patterson of Tennessee. He declares: "The Negro needs the South and the South needs the Negro. I am a Southern man with an ancestry wholly Southern, but I know that some of us have the wrong philosophy in regard to the Negro. He is a man and entitled to the rights of a man. To squeeze him in trade, to get out of him all he can give and return nothing is worse than robbing the land and giving nothing in return about which we hear so much. The Negro should be better clothed and better housed."

Thus the need for his labor may bring to the black man of the South a measure of fair treatment and freedom from oppression that has long been withheld. Incidentally several writers have ascribed to the new attitude of the white Southerner the lack of enthusiasm for the spread of the white-robed Klan in some of the States that were once its premier recruiting grounds.

Leominster, Mass. Enterprise
JUNE 15, 1923

NEGRO EXODUS AND LYNCHING

(From the Houston Post.)

In the widespread comment in the North on the heavy migration of Negroes from the South to the industrial districts of the North and West, there is a distinct tendency to blame the lynching evil in the South as an important cause of the movement. Some of those who know the least about conditions in the South emphasize this alleged cause above all others.

Texas, with a lynching record that equals and sometimes exceeds that of Georgia and other southern states, has lost comparatively few of her Negroes. Instead of a decrease in Negro population on the farm, an increase is shown. Negro farm owners in Texas have increased 12 per cent within the last decade, compared with an increase of a little more than 1 per cent among whites. Lynching is not to be condoned, in Texas or in any other state. The people of Texas ought to be ashamed of the state's lynching record, and they should use drastic measures to eradicate the evil. But it is apparent that Texas Negroes are not so fearful of lynchers as to flee from them. As a matter of fact, the average Negro in Texas, and probably in the other states is not greatly concerned about the occasional lynchings that occur. The law-abiding Negro has nothing to fear from mob violence in the South.

The migration of Negroes is of economic, not political or social, origin. The Negro laborer finds opportunities to make more money in the industrial centers and to live more comfortably than he does in some sections of the old South. In Texas, where agricultural conditions are more favorable, he does not yield to the attraction of the industrial cities and finds contentment in his native haunts.

Lynchings — 1923
Discussion.

White Press (Michigan)

1280

DETROIT MICH. FREE PRESS
JANUARY 15, 1923

THE INEFFICIENCY OF LYNCH LAW.

Although most spokesmen for the south take pains to decry the lynching of Negroes and to advocate the punishment of lynchers, if they can be caught, which of course they rarely are, their actions frequently belie their words. The successful filibuster in the United States senate against enactment of the Dyer bill was an instance in point. Southern sheriffs are not accustomed to laying down their lives in defense of black prisoners when mobs appear at the jail gates.

In other words, while the average southerner of standing will agree with you that the hanging or burning of a Negro without trial is an immoral business, too many of them do nothing to stop it, and their attitude of easy tolerance toward the matter would indicate that they do not consider it so terribly wicked after all.

Perhaps the south would be more amenable to reason and logic if the question were discussed, not on the basis of the immorality of lynch law, but of its inefficiency. Take recent events in Rosewood, Fla., and Orange, N. J., as illustrations. In the southern town a Negro attacked a white woman. A mob formed. Race riots ensued. A number of persons were killed, some of them white men. The Negro quarter was burned down. But the culprit—the Negro who attacked the white woman—escaped. In the New Jersey city a black man attacked and killed a white woman. The authorities apprehended him. He was given a fair trial, convicted of murder, and has been sentenced to the electric chair.

Under lynch law the only sufferers were innocent persons, black and white. Under duly constituted law, the offender against it must pay its extreme penalty. Which is the more efficient?

Lynchings—1923
Discussions.

White Press, (Minnesota).

1310

MINNEAPOLIS EVE. TRIBUNE
FEBRUARY 14, 1923

The Beneficent Reign of Mob Law.

About a year ago a Negro was burned at the stake because a group of Texas vigilantes were convinced that he had committed a certain murder.

The killing of the Negro attracted no widespread attention. It was only one killing more or less, and in Texas killings have become too commonplace to possess any special value as news. The episode, apparently, was closed.

Not long ago, however, a tardy epilogue put in an appearance. A mulatto named Mitchell, charged with murder, was placed under arrest. Mitchell was finally induced to make a confession. He owned that he had committed five murders within the past two years.

And among the murders he confessed to was the murder for which the first mentioned Negro had been burned at the stake.

The Negro in question having been dead for a year, there was no particular expedient left the noble vigilantes by which they might rectify their error. Nor are we informed as to whether the matter greatly interested them. They at least had had the excitement of burning somebody at the stake. Beyond that, possibly, any thought upon the episode bored them.

So, once more, we have a vindication of these loyal enforcers of justice who declare that they are superior to the courts, and who inform us that only their zealous activities are responsible for the prompt punishment of the doers of evil deeds. Here we have another reason for pointing with pride to the fact that we live in an advanced country which impatiently brushes aside law and substitutes therefor the beneficent reign of mob outrages, lynchings, and burnings-at-the-stake.

Let us rise, flushed with gratitude and pardonable elation, and sing our national anthem.

MINNEAPOLIS M MORN TRIB
MAY 3 1923

Lynch Law Odium in Missouri.

An ugly stain has been put on the shield of Missouri by the mob which lynched a Negro at Columbia, that state, but not all the blame for the odium falls on the mob. The victim had been in custody for a week or more. Since the day of his arrest there had been mutterings as to possible, even probable, lynch law. The storm cloud of wrath grew closer and darker as the days went on. It was all the more portentous because the wrath was that of roughs and irresponsibles.

Ordinary, every-day precaution seemed to require that the Negro prisoner be transferred to a safer place for keeping. He might have been removed, for instance, to the State penitentiary only a few miles away, or to some more distant place where the air was not charged with the mob spirit. Instead of this the mob gathered slowly its forces, and when the storm of wrath broke into overt acts at the local prison the authorities were not prepared to resist. These authorities "stood by," so to speak, while the mob's leaders tried vainly to batter their way to the prisoner, and then, after considerable delay, effected entrance with the use of an acetylene torch. If proper protective measures had been taken, the majesty of the law would have been preserved, and the prisoner would have had his basic right to a day in court and a trial by his peers.

Particularly regrettable was it that this brutal flouting of the law should have taken place virtually in the shadow of the walls of the State university where young men and women are supposed to be infused with the highest principles of good citizenship and imbued with respect for law and order. Devoutly is it to be wished, as reported from Columbia, that no university students joined themselves with the mob.

There was far less "excuse" for this lyching than for many others that have disgraced the country. The mob feeling was a thing of slow growth, not of instant generation. The accused man was in custody. He had been identified by his victim. He would soon have been brought to justice and dealt with, doubtless, according to his deserts. There was every reason why the law should be permitted to vindicate itself—every reason save one: Irresponsible mob lust.

The mob may have thought it was rendering Columbia a service, whereas it was terribly unfair to Columbia and to the whole state of Missouri. For the community it added to the shock of a revolting attack against womanhood the shock and ignominy of a lynching. It was unfair to the rest of the state in that it sowed the germs of the lynch-law spirit in other communities.

Lynchings—1923.
Discussions.

White Press.(Mississippi).

1304

NATIONAL WEEKLY PRAISES FLORIDA SHERIFF

Says Collier's Weekly: "When a mob is after a negro prisoner, the sheriff is usually fishing at the other end of the county. But a Florida mob found Sheriff Hagan right at home. After fifty shots were exchanged in an effort to seize a Negro prisoner accused of murder, and the sheriff was shot through the hand, the mob cooled off and decided that where there was a good sheriff there must be some justice. But Sheriff Hagan was not through. Before long 18 steady man who knows that f roteh members of the mob were in jail. A steady man who knows that for the moment he is the State, can handle nearly any mob."

Marks, Miss. Leader
White Press
DEC 21 1923

SOUTHERN JUSTICE

The horrible tragedy which happened last week in the adjoining county of Sunflower in which a negro share cropper shot and killed four white men and wounded eight others, emphasizes to the highest degree the sense of justice which permeates the Southerner. The negro murderer shot his landlord and the latter's companion and made his escape. The posse, which was quickly organized, went directly to the home of the negro's mother seeking information as to his location. This old negro woman had cause to be frightened, but not one moment was she in danger of bodily harm from the posse, after they had searched the house and found the negro gone. Another posse went to the homes of others relatives of the negro, but not one of the negro's relatives were molested.

This tragedy takes us back to the East St. Louis race riot and to the war between whites and blacks in Chicago several years ago. According to newspaper reports there were probably a dozen guilty negroes in East St. Louis outbreak. but when the smoke cleared away, more than a hundred negroes were found dead. The East St. Louis mob did not stop to ascertain whether or not they had the guilty party, but just because the party they had captured was black was enough for them, and they promptly killed him. The same thing happened in the Chicago riot.

The conception of justice in the South seems to vary widely from that of the North where negroes are concerned. The Southern posse directs its energies toward finding the guilty negro, passing up hundreds of innocent negroes in the ir search. The Northern pose in its search for the guilty negro usually leaves in its wake dead bodies of innocent negroes who happen to have crossed their path. The summary dealing of justice by the Southern posse is quick and effective. No quarter is given, and none asked, but when the guilty negro has been captured and killed, the pose is satisfied, just as they were satisfied at Drew last Friday when they brought in the body of the negro murderer.

There is coming in some of the congested cities of the North, unless stringent measures are taken, a repetition of the bloody northern race riots, and when it comes, hundreds of innocent negroes who have gone North from the Southern fields, will suffer. Then they will see the wide difference of the conception of justice of the Southern man and the Northern man.

Lynchings—1923
Discussions.

White Press. (Missouri)

1295

States Must Do Their Duty.

It may be only a coincidence, and not a direct consequence of the failure of the Dyer anti-lynching bill to become a law, that 1923 has been ushered in by an almost unprecedented outbreak of mob violence.

There was a lynching every day for the first three days of the new year, and some of the disturbances were more than usually ominous. Florida, Mississippi and Louisiana were the scenes of these ebullitions of race hatred. None of the victimes of the first three lynchings was accused of a crime against women. In a Florida riot persons to an unknown number were killed, some of them whites.

KANSAS CITY MO JOURNAL
JANUARY 20, 1923

Negroes, against whom no crime was alleged, except the unforgivable offense of being black, had their homes burned and were driven from the community or fled in fear of their lives.

The situation calls renewed attention to the fact that the leading newspapers of the South have for years been pleading with the better element to put an end to mob crimes. Especially since the defeat of the Dyer bill have they been urging the obvious duty of the states to take measures which will accomplish the ends sought by the Dyer bill without interfering with the rights of the several states—those "sovereign" rights which are interpreted by the more fanatical as the right to wreak vengeance outside the law.

The Atlanta Georgian voiced the attitude of the Southern press when it said:

"Now that the Dyer bill is dead it is distinctly up to the states to make good the promises and professions of their senators and representatives, which are that the states themselves will this problem, settle it right and for all ti left to themselves. Here is a chance to vin 'state rights' and to preserve the great pri involved there—so long cherished as a vital th in the South."

Other papers expressed the same views. No blame can be attached to them because there was an apparent unleashing of racial hatred with the definite shelving of the Dyer bill. But the duty of the states, Northern and Eastern and Western as well as Southern, could not be more clearly or courageously set forth than in the words of the Atlanta Georgian and other papers of the South.

KANSAS CITY MO TIMES
MAY 5, 1923

A WAY TO DEAL WITH MOBS.

The grand jury investigating the lynching of a negro at Columbia, Mo., last Sunday, has returned five indictments against persons believed to have participated in the lawless act. The jury announces that its work still is unfinished. It was able to bring the indictments in a little more than twenty-four hours after investigation of the outrage was begun.

The proceeding at Columbia shows plainly that a community is not powerless when a mob has taken the law into its own hands. There is machinery of the law and courts to deal effectively with participants in mob action. All that is necessary is determination of law enforcement officials to see that prompt investigation is made and that the course of justice is maintained. No community that is jealous of its good name and future safety can afford to be lax in its support of officials who thus resolve to do their duty. Lynching and other forms of lawlessness will become exceedingly unpopular when it is known that mob leaders will be held strictly accountable for their acts.

Incidentally, what does the grand jury think of the way the sheriff protected his prisoner?

ST. LOUIS MO. POST DISPATCH
JULY 12, 1923

BELIEVERS IN LYNCH LAW.

Lynch law has long been called the great shame of America. No progress can be made in its elimination, however, so long as people continue to indorse the principle. A discouraging phase of the trial at Columbia in connection with the lynching of a negro is that more than 25 per cent of 83 veniremen examined said they believed mob law was justified in certain cases. That, of course, means in all cases where passion and prejudice are aroused. It may as well have been a blanket declaration for mob law.

It may yet turn out in the Columbia case that the man hanged by the mob was innocent. Such an outcome should win many converts to the principle that in any circumstances mob law is wrong and should never be trusted in punishment for crime. If those interested in the annihilation of the lynching practice would collect all available data of cases in which the wrong man was lynched and make a propaganda of it, causing it to become a part of the education of citizenship in the public schools and elsewhere, some progress, we believe, might be made through public opinion in wiping out the great American disgrace.

ST. LOUIS MO. POST DISPATCH
JULY 11, 1923

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Lynchings — 1923

White Press, (Missouri.)

1300

ST. LOUIS MO. POST DISPATCH
APRIL 30, 1923

THE COLUMBIA LYNCHING.

A peculiar odium attaches to the lynching at Columbia because of its setting and circumstances. The law has been ruthlessly overriden within the shadow of the State University, in a community where, if anywhere, respect for authority and the orderly processes of civilization might be presumed to prevail. It is no explanation that the mob consisted mostly of thoughtless youths led by "roughs." That is the typical composition of mobs. Were such an excuse competent for Columbia it were competent for every locality disgraced by such an outrage.

In other respects, too, the wretched affair ran true to form. There was the conventional official helplessness at the jail, where the Sheriff and the Deputy Sheriff offered no resistance to the mob. The poltroonery of those officials is aggravated by the fact that they had ample warning of what was to occur. Neither of them was surprised when the mob finally appeared, yet no preparations had been made to defend the majesty of the law, secure the prisoner in his right to a trial and guard the reputation of the State.

With ordinary resolution and alertness those officials, apparently, could have prevented this outrage. As told in the Sunday evening edition of the Post-Dispatch, the mob was unable to batter down its way to the victim. The locks and masonry resisted stoutly until finally, after a considerable delay, an acetylene torch was procured and applied. During all this time the guardians of the law were as helpless spectators. Having neglected to take the slightest precaution or make the most simple arrangements for standing off the expected mob, they could only plead with the assailants to desist. Their pleas, of course, were vain.

And responsibility does not begin and end with the Sheriff and his deputy. The crime for which the negro was lynched was committed on April 20, and rumors and fears that a lynching would be attempted have been current ever since. They were so persistent and convincing that the Post-Dispatch sent a reporter to the scene. Officialdom at Jefferson City had been apprised of the conditions and might easily have removed the prisoner to the State penitentiary, only a few miles away. But Jefferson City did nothing, Columbia did nothing, nobody did anything. In consequence Missouri suffers in reputation and standing and comes into undeserved, avoidable notoriety.

The crime with which the negro was charged was most heinous. It calls for swift, stern judgment. But the judgment should have been lawfully reached and executed. It is upon the supremacy of the law that the security and rights, not of criminals, but of society, depend. If we cannot have law in all instances, how may we be sure of having law in any instance?

That is the question raised by every lynching and that is the threat embodied in every such act

KANSAS CITY MO. STAR
APRIL 30, 1923

A DISGRACE TO COLUMBIA.

There have been emergencies in the development of America when citizens were compelled to take the law into their own hands. Outbreaks of violence have sometimes reached a stage where the organized instruments of government failed to function, and the organization of vigilance committees has been necessary.

No such condition existed at Columbia, Mo. The courts are functioning there. No breakdown of justice has occurred. The negro victim of the mob had been arrested and would have been dealt with by the court to which he was bound over.

The lynching was a brutal and outrageous outbreak of race prejudice. Its evil effects will not be confined to the town in which it took place. It will tend to stir up racial animosities and law breaking elsewhere. Such exhibitions of lawlessness not only menace the lives of persons who may happen to be wrongly accused of a crime. They demoralize and brutalize the region in which they occur. They are uncivilized, un-American.

The Columbia affair was a disgrace to the city and to Missouri. No effort should be spared to punish the leaders who were responsible for it. Missouri cannot tolerate lynchings.

ST. LOUIS MO. GLOBE DEM.
MAY 1, 1923

Ministers Here Protest Against Lynching of Negro

Unanimous approval was given by the Ministerial Alliance of the city yesterday to a resolution protesting against the lynching Saturday night of a negro at Columbia, Mo. The resolution, introduced by Rev. Dr. S. B. Campbell and Rev. Dr. William Crowe, stated that members of the Ministerial Alliance had "heard with alarm" of the affair, and expressed their "indignation at such an act on the part of citizens of this state, deploring the moral effect it will have upon the citizenship." A message was forwarded to Gov. Hyde expressing approval of his administration in "offering aid and co-operation in the investigation of the lynching."

Rev. Dr. M. T. Haw, presiding elder, made a speech in which he said that while the lynching was "the act of beasts," yet he wished that the negroes could devote themselves more, especially from their pulpits, to a correction of such crimes as bring about lynching. "The man who committed the act was not a church member, nor were the members of the mob church people. It is difficult to influence them, of course, but I wish it could be done."

Rev. Dr. George A. Campbell, pastor of Union Avenue Christian Church, said that "drinking is responsible for many crimes. If the law had been enforced with regard to liquor, this lynching might not have taken place."

Demand Murder Charge.

NEW YORK, April 30.—Trial for first-degree murder of every person who participated in the lynching of James T. Scott, alleged assailant of a 14-year-old girl, was demanded by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People in a telegram sent to Gov. Hyde of Missouri today.

ST. LOUIS MO. POST DISP
MAY 11, 1923

The Scott Lynching.

To the Editor of the Post-Dispatch.

IN the nation-wide editorial comment upon the outrageous lynching of James T. Scott, colored janitor at the University of Missouri one or two facts have not received the emphasis that it seems they deserve.

The first is that at the very time the lynching occurred, Representative Leonidas C. Dyer of Missouri, the State in which the lynching occurred, was on a tour of the Middle and Far West, speaking to audiences about the Dyer anti-lynching bill, whose passage was held up in the last session of Congress by the filibuster of a small group of Southern Senators.

The second fact is that the alleged assault for which the colored man was hanged without trial did not actually occur.

This outrage, together with the inaction upon the part of the State authorities and the failure to convict the murderers, which editors everywhere expect, is one of the best concrete arguments for the passage of a Federal antilynching bill that could possibly be adduced.

JAMES WELDON JOHNSON,
Secretary National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

SPRINGFIELD M REPUBLICAN
APRIL 13, 1923

Southern Women First to Protest Against the Lynching of Negroes

South Is Establishing Better Relations Between Whites and Negroes Through the Efforts of the Commission of Inter-Racial Co-operation and Various Church Organizations—700 Committees in 700 Counties Hard at Work—Church Council Assists

WOMEN have played an important part in creating better relations between the white and Negro races in the south, according to a recent report of the commission on Inter-Racial Co-operation. Churches of all denominations have been influential in this work. Indeed the first public protest against lynching came from a convention of Methodist women.

The commission has been active only four years; but in that time it has been able to establish more friendly feelings between the two races. Its first meeting was held in Atlanta, Ga., in March 1919. Scarcely a dozen people were present.

From that meeting has developed one of the most important social agencies of the south, with almost 700 committees in as many southern counties.

A by-product of the commission's work has been the action of the federal council of churches in creating a commission on the church and race relations.

Worked Separately at First

In the first years of the commission's work no women were in its ranks, except one admitted by courtesy, because of personal friendships and her long interest in such work. The women went on developing their own work in their various unrelated groups, though the need of co-operation was increasingly felt.

Southern Methodist women were the first to move toward definite co-operation with other agencies. In April, 1920, they appointed a commission on race relationships to study and report upon needs of Negro women and children, and methods of co-operation in meeting these needs.

The chairman of the commission, Mrs Luke G. Johnson, long known for her interest in these matters, went with some of her committee to Tuskegee, Ala., to a meeting of the National Federation of Colored Women's Clubs. She told her story, and asked the women to tell her their people's needs as they saw them. Through this meeting, and the reports of it carried out to the women of each race, white women and black are moving toward a new understanding. Later, when the Southeastern Federation of Colored Women's clubs met in Atlanta, in June, 1921, they adopted a statement of the matters in which they felt the need of white women's co-operation for the betterment of racial conditions.

Union Convention Held

In October, 1920, a meeting was called in Memphis, Tenn., by the chairman of the Methodist commission, which brought together about 100 women, leaders in the religious and club life of the South, and representing every Protestant denomination, the women's clubs, and the Young Women's Christian association. Four colored women—Mrs Booker Washington, Mrs R. R. Moton, Mrs Charlotte H. Browne and Mrs George E. Haynes—were present by invitation and spoke on the needs of Negro women and children and what white women could do to meet the needs.

The white women, including those who came to the meeting more or less in doubt of its wisdom, pledged themselves with the deepest conviction to work for the ends set forth. A continuation committee was appointed, with Mrs Luke G. Johnson as chairman, to serve until representatives could be officially appointed to organize a permanent body.

Convention's Program

Under the instructions of the Memphis conference "to devise ways and means for carrying out the work considered by the conference," this committee suggested the following program to all the women's denominational organizations, and to other Christian agencies:

(A) "To seek to know the leaders among Negro women of the community, that a sympathetic basis of co-operation may be established.

(B) "To direct a study of Negro community life in matters of housing, sanitation, neighborhood conditions, and all the needs of Negro women and children.

(C) To adopt methods of co-operation with other agencies and with Negro women, that a constructive program of community betterment may be wrought out.

(D) "To lead the auxiliary in a study of Negro achievement in literature, poetry, music, art and other lines of endeavor, that there may be a sympathetic appreciation of the Negro's contribution to American life along these lines.

(E) "To represent the auxiliary in any local co-operative work that may be undertaken in the community, and to have membership on community inter-racial committees when organized."

To Use Existing Agencies

Their plan was not to form a new organiztaion, but to enlist those already existing. Each body of women represented on the committee was asked to accept the plan, and to request its many local branches to study community conditions with the aid of local Negro women leaders, and to enlist the local inter-racial committees, ministers, school and health boards, and all other proper agencies, in effecting needed changes.

The Young Women's Christian Association held its meeting first. In February, 1921, it officially indorsed the findings of the Memphis conference. The Methodist women met in April, 1921. The body was 10,000 local auxiliaries scattered throughout the South. They adopted the report of the Memphis conference, and appointed the chairman of their commission as their permanent representative. Their report provides that in each auxiliary there shall be an inter-racial committee.

In May the Baptist women voted to make a further study of the question, and of the methods of the various missionary and social organizations and of the commission of inter-racial co-operation in dealing with it. They also affirmed their belief in the soundness of the program proposed by the Memphis conference to improve race relations through attention to needs in domestic service, child welfare, travel facilities, education, the use of the press, the suppression of lynching, and the exercise of the ballot.

Denominations Approve

In July the Presbyterian women met, gave their official approval to the program and appointed a representative on the committee. In December, 1921, the presiding bishop and council of the Episcopal church took favorable action on the work and appointed an official representative on the continuation committee.

At many of the regional meetings of women in the various churches similar action has been taken. In North Carolina the Episcopalian women have appointed a committee to confer with the leading Negro women of that state to learn their views of the needs of Negro women and children, and to formulate plans for co-operation in meeting these needs. This committee of women has on it one colored woman—the wife of the colored suffragan bishop of the diocese. Similar action has been taken by several state denominational organizations.

Women Recognized

At the meeting of the commission on inter-racial co-operation in November, 1920, the women of the continuation committee of the Memphis conference were elected to membership on the commission. Women were also made eligible for membership on all state and county committees. They are now serving in many of the states, their especial concern being conditions affecting Negro women and children.

The commission also appointed Mrs Luke G. Johnson as director of women's work. Mrs Johnson, who is a Georgian, has long been enlisted in the Negro work of her denomination. On assuming the duties of director she resigned the chairmanship of the continuation committee, which was reorganized as the woman's committee of the commission on inter-racial co-operation with Mrs T. W. Bickett of North Carolina as chairman.

Protested Lynching

In regard to lynching, southern women are increasingly urgent in their demand that it cease. Ten years or more ago the Methodist women, then in session at Birmingham, Ala., and representing over 200,000 southern women, uttered what is, so far as I can find, the first public protest by an organization of southern women against the monstrous doctrine that mob murder is a protection to white womanhood. This protest has since been emphasized by similar pronouncements from the Woman's inter-racial committees of Georgia, Alabama, Virginia, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas and Arkansas, by many church groups of women in a number of southern states and by state federations of Women's clubs.

ST LOUIS MO STAR
MAY 3, 1923

TO REMOVE THE STIGMA.

The Chicago Tribune came out Monday morning with a big first-page heading over a Columbia, Mo., dispatch: "Students Lynch Alleged Rapist." What would the Columbia Chamber of Commerce and the students of the University of Missouri have done Saturday night if they had guessed that such a heading would appear in the largest newspaper of the Middle West?

The indignant comment may be made that the Tribune's heading flatly stated a falsehood; that, so far as can be determined, not a single student took part in the work of the mob. The denial is not an off-set. The advertising has been done. Even without dragging the students into the affair, the University has suffered serious harm from mere proximity to the disgraceful affair.

We may safely say that if Time could be turned backward, the lynching would not recur. Either the business men of Columbia would have seen to it that no handful of rough citizens could take possession of the jail without a sign of resistance being offered, or the students would have seen to it. There were enough University students in the vicinity of the jail to have driven the gang off, if they had been impelled to do so. But it seemed to be none of their business. Naturally, they felt no sympathy for the mob's victim, who, if he was actually guilty of the crime charged to him, deserved the severest punishment the law could inflict.

Everybody can see, today, that it was the business of the law-abiding section of the community to intervene and disperse the mob. In the first place, simple justice demanded it. Nobody knows whether the lynched man was innocent or guilty. In the second place, the security of organized society demands that the law shall be upheld and order preserved. Finally, because this lynching happened to be at the seat of the State University, the interests of the school demanded it.

The bad impression created by this affair can most surely be counteracted if the community now demands, and sees to it, that the law punishes those who have committed this crime. Those who took part in the lynching are guilty of murder. They are known. Hundreds of people saw and recognized them. They cannot be shielded from a just punishment in the courts, unless the people of Columbia and the students who witnessed the lynching are willing to accept the stigma that has been cast upon the city and the school.

Lynchings—1923

White Press (Oklahoma.)

1296

Discussion

OKLAHOMA CITY OKLA TIME
FEBRUARY 6, 1923

Encouraging Lynching

MURDER and manslaughter are not too severely punished, even where executive clemency is withheld. Too often such offenses are not punished at all. Police inefficiency leaves a mystery unsolved, or a sentimental jury heeds the heart-rending plea of counsel for the defense, or a legal technicality thwarts justice. If conviction is secured, pardons, paroles and leaves of absence too often remove the sting from deserved punishment. That is bad, because others of criminal inclinations feel they can count on similar misguided mercy to soften the blow. Thus crime is encouraged, including the crime of lynching, for an irate citizenry can cite cause for a lack of confidence in the punitive power of the government.

It is worse, although it should not be, when the criminal thus favored is a negro. Race prejudice is a fact. To grant a negro criminal unusual privileges adds fuel to its flames of bitterness. Law should take its course, but the feeling that it doesn't makes otherwise decent men see red. That is, one cause for the outrages of rope and torch; the injustice of terrorism that seeks in vain to take the place of government that fails to function as the people feel it should.

The case of Xenophon Jones, negro, who slew a white man, has an added factor of evil because Xenophon is rich, or said to be. He can employ able attorneys to plead his case; to seek the leave so lately granted, and right or wrong, the white people resent the power of his purse. Xenophon Jones is to return to prison soon, for his leave is brief. He should stay there for the remainder of his sentence.

OKLAHOMA OKLAOKLAHOMA
FEBRUARY 11, 1923

LYNCHING ON DECLINE.

CONTRARY to the general belief, lynchings are becoming more rare, if one may take figures recently given out by the commission on international co-operation. After a study of data covering the past forty years, members of this body announce that the lynching evil is being steadily reduced, both as to numbers and area, and express the opinion that its eradication is only a matter of time.

During the period covered by the commission's study, lynchings have occurred in forty-four states. In 1892, thirty-two states witnessed illegal executions while the average number of states where lynchings have occurred for the entire period is twenty-one.

In 1921, however, in only thirteen states were there lynchings, while this number was reduced to ten last year. This decrease, which has been fairly consistent for the past decade, is taken to mean that the habit is being gradually pushed off the map.

Figures for states where especial efforts have been made to control the evil are particularly gratifying and give reason to believe that these crimes can be controlled.

For example: Alabama with a yearly average of eight lynchings for the entire forty years, had only two last year; Tennessee with a forty-year average of six, had only two last year and only five in the last four years. In both these states, the establishment of a state constabulary force under the direct control of the governor is believed to be at least partly responsible for the decrease in this particular form of lawlessness.

In Alabama, Florida, Kentucky, South Carolina and Louisiana, laws have been enacted providing for the removal of officers who allow prisoners to be taken from them. The salutary effects of such laws are believed to be shown in the fact that South Carolina's forty-year average has dropped from four to only one in 1922; Louisiana's average of nine has dropped to three; and Florida with an average of five, had none at all in 1922.

Lynchings — 1923
Discussion.

White Press, (Nebraska)

1308

1308

OMAHA NEB NEWS
FEBRUARY 6, 1923

Omaha Churches Take Up Cudgles for Negro in Nation Wide Anti-Lynching Move

STATISTICS SHOW ONLY FOUR STATES WITHOUT LYNCHING

Mob Law Here in 1919 Kept Nebraska From List of Spotless States.

MOB LAW INCREASING

A nationwide movement to reduce the number of lynchings in the United States and to foster a better understanding between the white and Negro races, inaugurated by the Federal Council of Churches, Washington, D. C., will be participated in locally through the observation of February 11 as Race Relations day.

On that day, chosen because it is the Sunday preceding the birthday of Abraham Lincoln, the "great emancipator," a campaign of education against lynching will be launched in Protestant churches throughout the country.

Only Four States.

Startling statistics issued by the commission on the church and race relations of the Federal Council of Churches, show that only four states in the United States have never had a lynching. They are: Massachusetts, Rhode Island, New Hampshire and Vermont.

Only one-third of the states in the United States have a clean record during the last ten years. Nebraska is not included in the list, a lynching having occurred in Omaha in September, 1919.

Besides the four mentioned above, New Jersey, Utah, Connecticut, Nevada, Colorado, Minnesota, Iowa, Wisconsin, Michigan, Indiana, Delaware and Pennsylvania are included in the "white list."

From 1885 to 1921 inclusive, 1,028 white persons and 3,069 colored persons were killed by lynching. In the last thirty-eight years, 85 women, 17 of whom were white and 68 Negroes, have been killed by mobs.

According to statement, lynchings rae now on the increase, with some evidence to indicate that during recent years lynchings have occurred and the facts concealed from the press, so that no record has been secured.

"The record of lynching by years shows slow decrease from the climax in 1892 and 1893 down to 1908. In 1908 and 1909 there was an increase, then another slow decrease until 1918. Since then the number has been increasing.

Three Out of Four Were Black

"Every three out of four of those lynched during the period from 1885 to 1921 were black.

In Omaha, the observance of Race Relations day will center on fostering a better understanding between the white and Negro races, according to Mrs. Charles Offutt, chairman of the Committee on Colored Work of the Y. W. C. A., who, in response to a request from the national organization, has sent out letters to Omaha pastors asking that they observe he day.

Mrs. Offutt's letter to Omaha pastors follows:

This letter is sent you at the suggestion of the Rev. A. F. Ernst, president of the ministerial association, with the thought that you may wish to co-operate in the observance of an annual race relations' Sunday, which this year will fall on February 11. Suggestions for a program are enclosed.

If you would care to have music for a service on that day furnished by a colored quartet or chorus, or speaking by a colored minister, kindly communicate with Mrs. Fred Divers, acting secretary of the North Side branch of the Young Woman's Christian association.

The Negro in Omaha, as elsewhere, has many problems to solve. Will you not give him your earnest consideration as brother and citizen? Cordially Yours,

MRS. CHARLES OFFUTT.

MCCOOK NEB TRIBUNE
FEBRUARY 5, 1923

LYNCHING

The average Northerner would probably say that the great majority of the lynchings in the South were because of some Negro's assault upon a white woman. What are the facts? Of the 3,465 lynchings in the United States during the past thirty-eight years, only 581 cases was the accusation of a crime. During these same thirty-eight years 83 women have been lynched in this country. Of this number, 66 were colored. Of the total 3,465 who suffered death by this inhuman practice, 2,718 were Negroes—of course, American citizens.

Lynchings—1923
Discussion

1309

White Press, (New Jersey)

1309

PATERSON N J EVE NEWS
FEBRUARY 14, 1923

AMERICA'S MOST SERIOUS PROBLEM—MOB RULE A SUPREME MENACE.

Where is America heading?

Are its laws; its constitution; all its safeguards of life, liberty and property, doomed to disappear before a return of the era of personal vengeance and mob rule?

The question is not preposterous. It is pertinent and justified.

Back in the German forest where we first appeared in history, the man who had been wronged punished that wrong. His kinfolk helped him, and the kinfolk of his adversary opposed. Gradually the system became more widespread; friends and retainers of the family joined in the settlement of disputes, and out of this chaos finally grew the system by which offenses were presented to some rude tribunal for decision.

Out of these tribunals developed courts; out of their decisions grew legal precedents. And by a long, tortuous process, organized law and authorized legal machinery were born.

Because of this machinery of law and government, we consider ourselves civilized, yet, throughout the United States today, thousands of individuals and mobs are proceeding to tear this machinery to tatters.

Over in Harrison, Ark., a mob of the so-called "best citizens" lynched a man, deported a score or more of railroad strikers, and forced the town officials to get out of office.

Down in Mer Rouge is being revealed the story of another mob who became so obsessed with the thought that it was made up of superior beings, that it was better and more worthy than a number of its neighbors, that it became inspired by this mania of "superiority" to create a reign of terror against those on whom it looked down—a reign of terror which ended in two murders so revolting, so barbarous and atrocious and unspeakable, that the worst crimes of uncivilized times sink into insignificance by comparison.

Up in Herrin, Illinois, members of another mob are being tried for a wholesale massacre of their opponents in a labor dispute. Their victims, it is claimed, were shot down and butchered while they were helpless prisoners.

These are but three outstanding incidents of a condition that is widespread. Secret tribunals judge men who make no defense; secret executioners carry out their decress.

Some hide their faces behind hoods; others more courageously leave them unmasked—but the mob mania which they represent acts the same, grows and spreads and contaminates the whole national life.

Mobs and lynchings; secret tribunals and floggings; bands and deportations—whence are they all tending?

This is the greatest question before America today.

A few more years at the present rate and laws will be obsolete; courts will be relics and civilization a memory.

NEWARK N J EVE NEWS
MARCH 13, 1922

Urges Churches to Work to Obtain State Laws to Blot Out Lynchings

To the Editor of the NEWS:

Sir—Now that the churches have taken up the lynching evil in America in a serious and organized way, we can see a glimmer of light for the control and suppression of this crime. In endeavoring to remove this terrible blot from American civilization, the churches will advance their influence among the people generally and dissipate some of the criticism of the churches.

If the crime of lynching could be controlled and justice meted out to the colored citizens of America, a great deal of the unadjustment between the races would settle itself and the colored people would have the time now used in agitation against lynching to give to inner growth.

The most expeditious and efficacious way to proceed would be for the churches and organizations with the fairest minded white and colored people in the states where lynchings occur to secure the passage of state laws to curb and destroy this lawlessness.

Attempts to secure state laws by the many friends of fairness and justice in the states would arouse less opposition than an attempt to pass federal laws upon them.

Would it not be well for inter-racial committees and investigating committees to join with the churches and other organizations and concentrate all their activities with intensity upon accomplishing this one object—the passage of state laws to control this crime?

Southern Congressmen who opposed the Dyer bill and who are charged with the duty of upholding the fair name of America could be persuaded to lend their influence in their several states to abolish this evil. This matter is of such importance that other things might well be laid aside until this vital reform is accomplished.

If the Southern people, as have been reported, are desirous of erecting a monument in memory of the black mammy of the South who was so faithful and cared so tenderly for the young intrusted to her, what more appropriate monument could there be than one on which would be inscribed: "In your memory for the tender love and care you gave us we have passed laws doing away with the lynching of your offspring?"

MRS. JAMES M. GREGORY.

ATLANTIC CITY N J GAZETT
FEBRUARY 14, 1923

WHY PERMIT LYNCHING?

The attention of the whole civilized world a few days ago was called to the fact that a woman in England, convicted with a male friend of the murder of her husband, had expiated her crime upon the scaffold. Before, during and after the execution there was a strong protest sounded against capital punishment for women found guilty of a crime for which death is the penalty. There appears to be a division of opinion on the question. Some humanitarians would abolish capital punishment, at any rate for women, as being a relic of barbarism, of the brutal, blood thirsty days of the middle ages. Others urge that no distinction between the sexes should be made in cases of homicide trials and convictions, claiming that the Mosaic code of "an eye for an eye, and a tooth for a tooth" is as applicable, and certainly as efficacious today, as in the old time.

And while the controversy is raging there is being circulated a statement from the Federal Council of Churches which is startling in its nature, revealing that although good people shudder at the thought of executing a person formally convicted of a terrible crime, and "sent west" by as merciful a method as can be devised under the circumstances, they take no organized and effective steps to stop the awful practice of lynching. The Commission on the Church and Race Relations of the Federal Council of Churches in its educational campaign against lynching says: "It seems hardly believable that America with its great Christian churches, homes, schools and courts allowed between 1885 and 1921 the lynching of more than 4000 persons, the great majority of whom were negroes. Eighty-three of the victims were women, seventeen of whom were white." That is an arraignment against indifference which no serious minded citizen of this great country, with its boasted institutions for protection of the unfortunate, and the friendless, and the afflicted can afford to ignore. And until New Jersey with every other State arises to stamp out the practice we all stand guilty of permitting such terrible conditions to obtain.

Lynchings — 1923.
Discussion

1307

White Press, (New York)

1307

IT is not often that in the South men are convicted of lynching and then kept in jail afterward. There was a governor of Alabama who once permitted the sentencing of a half dozen men to the chain-gang because they had made lynching a sport until mere hanging became too tame, when they indulged in the burning of a half-witted Negro boy whose alleged victim denied that he had done her any harm. That, said the sheriff at Wetumpka, was going too far. So these gentle playboys were arrested and, amid the plaudits of the Northern press, were sent to the chain-gang for a long time. Unfortunately, the Governor soon came up for reelection; his friends advised him he could not win again if it were said of him that he kept white men in the road-gang merely for having indulged in the pastime of burning a "nigger." The men were promptly pardoned. The present governor of Virginia is made of better and sterner stuff. He has just refused to pardon a certain A. L. Napier, "a prominent citizen in Wise County," who joined in the lynching of a Negro in 1921 for an alleged crime, and for his part in this foul deed was sentenced to a year in prison. Governor Trinkle rightly declares that to grant clemency to this lightly punished man would be to "lend my sanction to mob violence." All honor to the governor, all the more because, as the press reports, he resisted much pressure brought to bear upon him on behalf of this prominent and worthy criminal.

N Y C WORLD
MAY 1, 1923

STUDENTS OPPOSED LYNCHING OF NEGRO

Acting President of Missouri University Says They Only Watched Visiting Mob.

Special Despatch to The World

COLUMBIA, Mo., April 30.—University of Missouri students had no part in the lynching here of James Scott, Negro, early Sunday morning, said Isidore Loeb, Acting President of the institution, to-day. The lynching was performed by perhaps thirty men, certainly not more than forty, who were not residents of Columbia.

The 1,500 spectators waited patiently outside the jail while the mob cut its way through the doors and brought out the Negro, then followed the mob to the bridge and stood a trifle less patiently while the leaders sought a rope and the courage to toss the victim over.

The mob went to the jail late Saturday night. A few students, attracted by the disturbance, joined the crowd which grew during the hour and a half's battering of stone and cutting of steel necessary to get at the prisoner.

The path to the scene of the hanging, however, led directly through the university section and the cries of the crowd aroused hundreds of others who joined the spectators.

Among the hundreds outside the jail were perhaps a dozen co-eds, who went along to the hanging as they would to any other unusual affair. It was simply something going on which they didn't want to miss. They didn't approve, the Acting President said, and perhaps were a little sorry. They were there until the end.

A few students protested to the mob. Others stood silent, apparently disgusted, but realizing the futility of remonstrating.

For some few others the affair took on a gala note and they behaved as at a football game.

The girl's father begged the mob to let the law take its course, but in vain, as did others in the crowd.

N Y C POST
MAY 1, 1923

TOPICS OF THE TIMES.

Incompetence or Worse Was Shown.

A lynching in a small town of which a State university is the most prominent feature—and should be an effective influence for maintaining the theories and practices of civilized life—is rather worse than like affairs in other places. Special condemnation, therefore, is deserved by every member of the mob that hanged the negro Scott at Columbia, Mo., Saturday night, and not less, but rather more, by the Sheriff, his deputy who served as warden of the jail and all the other officials in any way concerned with the preservation of law and order.

Those officials by prompt, vigorous and convincing action—for the need of which they had been warned several days before—unquestionably could have prevented the lynching. The rioters were few in number at first, and it is doubtful if at the end more than a few participated in the actual work of murder. The rest of the crowd was composed of people attracted by curiosity. Nothing at all, apparently, was done to guard the prisoner except to lock the jail door and that of his cell. On these the lynchers were allowed to work without interference from anybody, and of course they soon broke through. If is something to their credit, perhaps, that they were content with hanging their victim, with no preliminary tortures, for he was charged with the "usual offence," and may have been guilty of it.

The haste in putting Scott to death might be taken as an indication of fear that in court he would be able to prove the innocence which he protested till the rope shut off his breath, but the excuse of the lynchers and their defenders probably will be that a public trial in such cases involves a questioning of witnesses that is intolerable. That excuse is comprehensible in some instances, but not in this one, especially as the father of the assaulted girl was among those who begged the mob to let the law take its course.

No Students Joined the Lynchers.

Commendable promptitude has been shown by the President of the University of Missouri in announcing that no student took any part in this deplorable affair, except as a spectator. If, as the Public Prosecutor says, the lynching was done by "roughneck men from out of Columbia," that fact only increases the mystery why the local authorities did nothing to prevent it. The officials were armed, presumably, and presumably they were not terrorized by the weapons in the hands of strangers.

The only plausible explanation of their inactivity is that they had, if not sympathy for the mob's purpose, at least a disinclination to shoot, or even to threaten, white men who thought they were avenging a hideous crime. The university authorities evidently are disturbed by the occurrence of something that reveals clearly the need of education—so clearly that near that institution a form of vicious ignorance still exists. That their own undergraduates were free of guilt is a cause of satisfaction to them and a vindication of their teachings.

As for the Prosecutor's declaration that he knows who led the mob and that he will have them indicted, the chances of securing convictions are minute as well as few.

N Y C MAIL
MAY 4, 1923

DEPLORES LYNCHING.

Editor Evening Mail—I noticed on the front page of your paper an account of a lynching which took place in Missouri. To my mind happenings of this kind are sent broadcast to all parts of the world and it's nothing for us to be proud of.

We Americans as a great nation are sending missionaries to all parts of the world, teaching people whom we think do not know the fear of God and how to worship him. We also tell these people to do unto their fellow man as they would have him do to them.

Why, my good sir, when these people read of the things that take place in this country they laugh and say to those who are teaching them, "Why don't you teach this to some of your own people at your home in America?" And what can you say?—nothing.

We therefore must clean our own home before we can tell the other fellow to clean his. I further may inform you that any so-called American who will take the law in his or her hand is not a true American, and some day will turn on this great country which says justice and freedom for all.

I again noticed that Dr. Almsted, when asked if he thought that the man who was lynched because of only being accused was guilty, he answered that there was no doubt in his mind as to his being guilty because his daughter said so. For this remark alone I am sure that in the face of the one and only God this doctor is as guilty as those who took the law in their hands, and by so doing broke the law of this great United States.

If you and the rest of the paper men in this country would keep your paper filled with remarks against this and all other kinds of injustice, we will always be able to inscribe on our money "In God We Trust."

For remember that God said, "He that lives by the sword by the sword he will die." If we believe in God we must believe in justice.

R. F. L.

BROOKLYN N Y EAGLE
APRIL 30, 1923

CO-EDUCATION IN MISSOURI.

Quite uncultivated were the calm-faced women of the Terror days of the French Revolution, who kept up their knitting as they counted the heads of aristocrats falling into the basket. Most of them could not read, to say nothing of writing. Yet the experience which was educating them was strictly co-educational. Throngs of men were hear them equally enjoying the spectacle and plenty of women's heads were being chopped off by the terrible knife.

By association of ideas this thought is suggested by the latest phase of co-education in Missouri. The State University is at Columbia. Girls as well as boys study Greek, Latin and mathematics there. In large measure the girls take up the same sports as the boys. When any excitement is in the air, they claim equal privileges. So when a negro accused but unconvicted of crime and persisting to the end in asserting his innocence was lynched by mob murderers at Columbia, the girls were there, indicating their approval.

Of course, it does no good to protest against lynching in the Southwest, as lynching. Our Christian civilization has acquired a tolerance for that sort of thing; even the North is indifferent. If a helpless colored man is tied alive to a stake in a public square of some town, saturated with kerosene, and burned to death, Northern newspapers may see enough drama in the thing to give it half a column. Generally ten lines is allotted to a lynching that is mere murder without medieval atrocity. Space and adjectives are saved for barbarisms in Russia.

Nevertheless, we may be listened to in a guarded statement that the lynching drama as a phase of co-education is of doubtful value in developing in girls those graces and those humane virtues which one is inclined to hope for in their sex. Mothers, even fathers, may regret a certain reversion to the French Terror type.

TROY N Y RECORD
FEBRUARY 6, 1923

THE LYNCHING EVIL.

According to a statement issued by the Federal Council of Churches there are only four states in the Union that have never had a lynching. These are Massachusetts, Rhode Island, New Hampshire and Vermont.

It speaks well for the law-abiding instincts of the old Puritan blood that these New England states, the stronghold of the Puritan idea, have been able to keep their records clean for a hundred and fifty years.

Three other states have had no lynching since 1889, New Jersey, Utah and Connecticut. It will be noticed that this adds one commonwealth to the New England record, giving a clean bill of health for nearly forty years to five of the states in that section. Nine other states have been without a lynching for the last ten years. In other words, only one-third of the states of the union have been able to avoid the illegal death penalty for a single decade.

It might be added that about one-tenth of those who hove been killed were women. Many of them have been put to death with savage tortures. the standard of brutality sometimes matching that usually associated with pagan times. One quarter of the victims were white. The total number from 1885 to 1921 exceeds 4,000 persons.

It is needless to say that the causes for lynching are sometimes trivial. We have one case of a negro who was lynched for making faces at a white woman. There are several cases on record where the culprit used indecent language and lost his life in consequence. A considerable fraction have been proved innocent after suffering the penalty of presumed guilt.

Unquestionably there is an emotional demand for these irregular executions. The courts of the United States, and the courts of almost every state, are so slow and so likely to err on the side of liberality that it is difficult to hold in check some badly balanced elements in the population. It is, however, far better that a large number of murderers should go free than that a small number of innocent men should be irregularly hanged or burned for murders they did not commit. Herein is the danger of lynching. The courts provide the proper means through which to punish crime. Any attempts on the part of a mob to take this matter into their own hands should be fought in every possible way.

UTICA N Y PRESS
MARCH 29, 1923

WOMEN OF THE SOUTH OPPOSED TO LYNCHING

The enlistment of Southern women in the numerous goodwill organizations recently formed in the Southern States says the Southern Workman is one of the most significant phases of the work being done by the Commission on Interracial Cooperation.

Groups of representative women in North and South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Arkansas, Virginia, Tennessee and Texas have accepted membership on their state committees on race relations and have made public statements embodying their views in regard to the justice and fair play that should be given to the negro, declaring their opposition to lynching and other manifestations of mob law, and pledging themselves to follow all methods leading to harmonious racial adjustment.

In addition to these state committees, there are to be noted the remarkable and encouraging movement to enlist the 250,000 organized women of the Methodist Church, South, in a determined and systematic campaign for the suppression of lynching; and the statement adopted by the recent Georgia Baptist convention, declaring that lynching "is a cancer on our body politic and a disgrace to our Christian civilization. The Christian church, surely our own, must sound the knell to anarchy in all its forms; but more especially when a band of men arrogate to themselves the right to become government, court, jury, witnesses, and thus proceed to commit murder. It is diabolical. It is hellish. It puts government, society and the church at the mercy of the hobgoblins of the underworld. We must admit of no exceptions. There are none."

SCHENECTADY N Y ST
FEBRUARY 14, 1923

LYNCHING IN U. S.

Only Four States Have a Clean Record—Victims Mostly Black.

"Only four states in the Union have never had a lynching," according to a statement issued today by the Federal Council of Churches. They are Massachusetts, Rhode Island, New Hampshire and Vermont.

There are only three other states that have had no lynchings since 1889—New Jersey, Utah and Connecticut.

Nine other states have had a clear record during the last ten years. They are Nevada, Colorado, Minnesota, Iowa, Wisconsin, Michigan, Indiana, Delaware and Pennsylvania. This means that only 33 per cent. of the states of the Union have not had a lynching in the last ten years. At the same time it is pointed out that 83 women have been lynched since 1889. The churches are engaged in a nation-wide campaign against lynching, and facts are being fathered.

"The total number of persons lynched by years gives a startling picture of lawlessness," the statement continues. "There was a slow decrease from the climax in 1892 and 1893 down to 1908. During the latter year and 1908 there was an increase, then another slow decrease until 1918, when a tendency to increase was again manifested.

"The sex of the victims in the cases where a record has been made shows an alarming number of women. Since 1889 there have been 83 women, 17 white and 68 colored, killed by mobs. Some of them were put to death with savage tortures, such as burning and disemboweling. Such brutality might be expected in pagan times or heathen countries, but by no means in a civilized land today."

Every three out of four of those lynched during the period from 1885 to 1921 were black.

Protestant churches throughout the country will observe Sunday, February 11, as Race Relations Sunday, when they will begin a campaign of education against lynching.

N Y C SUN
MAY 1, 1923

Explaining Away a Crime.

The responsibility for the lynching at Columbia, Missouri, of a negro touches the sheriff of Boone county. No physical resistance was offered by any of the county officers to the mob as it battered down the doors of the jail with sledge hammers and burned its way into the negro's cell with an acetylene torch. The sheriff pleaded with the mob to let the law take its course; this was the extent of his interference.

After the event, this same sheriff attempted to justify himself by saying that resistance would have brought about a riot, with results worse than the lynching. He declared, in effect, that it was better for one culprit to be executed in passion and without due process of law than for two or three or any number of reputable men bent on killing him to be shot down.

This is a strange and outworn attitude for an officer of the law to take. It ignores the moral issue in lynching completely. It ignores as completely the responsibility for the care and protection of prisoners which the county puts upon the sheriff.

What is more, the Sheriff of Boone county can never say with certainty that resistance to the mob would have failed to save the prisoner. During the last few years many Southern officers of the law have succeeded in preventing lynchings by offering re[illegible] mere show resistance has been [illegible] whether the mob of Co[illegible]um ia was cowardly or exceptionally daring, it was the duty of the sheriff to meet it and stop it, by physical force if necessary.

N Y C CALL
MAY 19, 1923

Mo. Lynching Indictments Mark Reaction to Violence

Three decisions involving freedom of the press, especially the conviction of G. V. Sanders of the Memphis Press for an editorial on the injunction against the railroad shopmen last October, are noteworthy in the week's report on the Civil Liberties situation.

Indictments for the recent lynching at the University of Missouri and against Klan members in Texas mark the slowly growing reaction against mob violence.

Police interference with anti-Fascisti meetings, which has been in evidence in several cities, prevented Carlo Tresca from speaking in Buffalo, N. Y.

MOB VIOLENCE.

Missouri.—Five indictments charging first degree murder in connection with the lynching of James Scott Negro, at Columbia on April 28th, were returned by a special grand jury on May 4th. This is the first instance in Missouri of indictments returned in a case of lynching.

New Jersey.—Fifteen women, parading with the United Citizens' League of Bayonne, N. J., on May 7th, were injured when a mob attacked the cars in which they rode exploding fireworks and tearing American flags from the decorations. Opposing political parties were responsible for the attack.

KU KLUX KLAN ACTIVITIES.

Kansas.—Stating that it has no connection with the original Klan at Atlanta Ga., the Kansas Klan, on May 2d, applied for a state charter which would protect it against proceedings seeking its dissolution.

New Jersey.—Accused of stealing money presented to his mother by Klan members George Titus, an 18-year-old boy, was taken from the home of a friend at West Belmar on May 9th by four masked men ,and threatened with hanging and dismembering in an effort to force a confession.

New York.—Klan warnings ordering him to leave town if he valued his life are believed to have caused the suicide of Frederick Hartwick of Valley Cottage on April 29.

Texas.—In a campaign to rid Texas of masked mobbers the Harris County Grand Jury, on May 5th, returned 26 indictments against men involved in a recent series of floggings in the Goose Creek oil district.

FREE SPEECH CASES.

Alabama.—Three members of the staff of the Birmingham Post were sentenced to 24 hours in jail for contempt of court, on May 9th, by Judge Heflin of the circuit court, who charged that articles printed in the paper had caused the postponement of a murder case by prejudicing jurors.

Illinois.—A decision favoring unlimited criticism of government was recently handed down by the Illinois Supreme Court in a case in which the Chicago Tribune was defendant.

Tennessee.—G. V. Sanders, editor of the Memphis Press, tried in October, 1922, for an editorial, entitled "The King Forbids," criticizing a local injunction against the railway shopmen was fined $300 by Judge Ross of the Federal court on May 8th.

CRIMINAL SYNDICALISM CASES.

California.—Ten arrests are reported in connection with the Marine Transport Workers' strike at San Pedro, all on criminal syndicalism charges.

Sixteen I. W. W.'s were arrested on April 30th in connection with organizing activities in the oil fields near Los Angeles. Acts of sabotage are added to the usual criminal syndicalism charges.

Kansas.—Roy Conner, political prisoner serving a 10-year sentence in Leavenworth, and kept in continued isolation for three years, has recently been chained and beaten by the prison guards, according to confidential information from fellow-prisoners.

Michigan.—Robert Minor, New York cartoonist and writer, will be the next member of the Bridgman convention to go on trial at St. Joseph. The case has been postponed until June 4th, to allow for the perfection of the appeal of C. E. Ruthenberg, recently convicted of criminal syndicalism.

Eight federated labor bodies are united in an attempt to block the hearing and prevent a vote on the repeal measure of the state criminal syndicalism law, under which the recent trials at St. Joseph were conducted.

New York.—The U. S. Supreme Court on May 7th ordered the case of Benjamin Gitlow, sentenced under the Criminal Anarchy Act, restored to its docket for reargument. This is the first appeal to be presented to the Supreme Court involving the constitutionality of such a state statute.

STRIKES.

Washington.—A coroner's jury at Aberdeen, on May 4th, decided that E. I. Green, watchman of the Bay City lumber mills, had shot William McKay, I. W. W. picket, in performance of his duty.

MEETINGS.

California.—Upton Sinclair was prevented from delivering an address at the University Club of Pasadena on April 30th, when the director of the club was advised that he was an "undesirable."

New York.—Carlo Tresca was again prevented from addressing an anti[illegible] Fascisti meeting when the police of Buffalo interfered on May 7th, despite enthusiastic cheers with which the large crowd greeted his appearance.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Washington, D. C.—President Hard[illegible] New York on amnesty declared himself committed to bring this controversy [illegible] an early close" and named the ill[illegible]ss of Attorney General Daugherty as [illegible]e reason for delaying the considera[illegible]on of the release of political prison[illegible]ers.

Lynchings — 1923. Discussion.

White Press, (New York.)

1297

BINGHAMTON N. Y. SUN
APRIL 26. 1923

SOUTHERN WOMEN CONDEMN LYNCHING

The women of the South, acting through the Committee on Interracial Cooperation—a committee with branches in most of the Southern States—have registered their protest against lynching. They did this at a recent meeting in Louisiana in no uncertain language, as the text of their resolution shows:

"We register herewith our protest against the barbaric custom of lynching, which arouses violent and un-Christian passions, brings law into disrepute, is inhuman and brutal, and unknown outside of our own land of America. We hold that no circumstances can ever justify such violent disregard for law and that in no instance is it an exhibition of chivalric consideration and honor of womanhood."

Those Southern folk who have tried to excuse this unjustifiable crime on the ground that they must protect their womanhood from the ravisher have the ground cut from under them by the foregoing resolution passed by Southern women. As a matter of fact practically 0 per cent of the lynchings have been for crimes other than the "usual" one. White men with a sense of inferiority that they are fearful will be shown up if they do not keep the Negroes in subjugation, make up the mobs that do the lynchings which shock the civilized world. The really worthwhile people of the Southern States are not lynchers at heart. They have long felt the disgrace that rests upon them because of what the mobs of blood-crazed men have done. It is not until quite recently that they have taken a definite stand against a horrible practice which has served no purpose at all except to prove the white man's justice he prates so much about is a mere mockery.

Every white person who aids and abets lynching or who feels sympathetic when the practice of that awful and barbarous crime is in evidence should pause to think. The colored men have always been bold and aggressive soldiers on the battlefields of the country. They have fought, bled and died for the land which they have been forced to adopt as their own because their ancestors were dragged here in the chains of slavery by the ancestors of the white men who make up lynching parties.

When the soap box orator preaches sedition he does not find a willing and ready listener in the black man; when men beg on the streets because they are vagrants at heart they are almost never colored men; when the South lynches colored men for crimes, real or fancied, it makes war upon the only race of laborers it has there and without which race the white race down South could not wax prosperous and wealthy.

In the main the black man is a good citizen—as good as the white man in the main. There are no more criminals among the colored folks per thousand head than can be found among the whites. We owe it to ourselves, and we owe it to the men and women of color, to treat them with justice and fairness always. If we are the superior race, as we are fond of saying we are, we should feel it to be our first duty to prove that superiority. We can't do it by perpetuating a course of treatment that has degraded the white man fully as much as it has the black man. Whatever the colored man in the United States is today is due to the whites. We made him what he is. We kept him in the chains of slavery and ignorance, we poured unworthily our own white blood into his veins and we have made a mockery of the citizenship which we finally tardily gave him.

These things every white man or woman with sense of a sort to be called fair knows to be true—all too true. We do not still treat the black race as badly as we did formerly, but there is still great room for improvement. It is a hopeful sign when the womanhood of the South takes up the cudgels for the downtrodden Negro who has suffered so much and so unworthily at the hands of the white race. Repentance should be our part when we come to consider our duty toward the Negro. And after repentance there should come as much of reparation as we can make.

Justice—simple justice—is demanded first, and after that is accorded we still have a long way to go before we can say we are dealing fairly by those among us who have skins God made black instead of white. If we are not mistaken there have been many times when, in the sight of that same God, the white skin was the one to be ashamed of if shame were necessary.

N. Y. WORLD
MAY 10, 1923

Why Lynching Flourishes.

(From the Kansas City Star.)

And lynching is always hard to stop, as an experienced Texas man pointed out to us the other day, because you can't keep men from showing their bravery when they have the numerical advantage of 500 to 1.

N Y C CALL
FEBRUARY 19, 1923

Burning Americanism

IN but few other countries has there ever been the ghastly tortures inflicted on human beings as in the United States. The Federal Council of Churches again calls attention to the burning of Negroes at the stake. The excerpts from the press of these horrible scenes which this organization sends out and printed in The Call on Saturday leave the reader sick with loathing.

Our 100 percenters should be reminded that these cruel tortures occur in a region which practically no foreign stock has invaded. It consists of American stock since colonial times. It is the most American region in the United States. Our 100 percenters who seek a pure Americanism may find it there.

It is still the home of the worst forms of child labor. It is a region of peonage and debt slavery. Its intellectual flower is the Ku Klux Klan. Its most popular festival is to watch a human being die in the flames of a slow fire. Here is an American region, pure and undefiled. Gaze on it, gentlemen, and tell us that it is good.

BROOKLYN N. Y. CITIZEN
MAY 1, 1923

MISCELLANEOUS NOTES.

In Columbia, Mo., Saturday evening, a negro was lynched after being accused of an attempted attack on a 14-year-old girl. This was one of the occasions, all too common, when the passions of the mob overcome the respect which is due to law and order. It is stated that the sheriff and deputy sheriffs "were not surprised" when the crowd of men and women, among whom were 500 students of the University of Missouri, appeared at the jail and demanded the surrender of the prisoner. All day they had heard rumors that a mob would come and get the prisoner. Yet they made no attempt to defend him. They stood by and watched with several city policemen. "We had been expecting this all this week," said the Sheriff, "but we thought the jail would hold." It is clear that these officials were either a party to the lynching or were inefficient and derelict in their duty as sworn guardians of the law. They should be removed from office.

N Y C CALL
MAY 19 1923

Courses in Lynching

THE charming tale of the lynching-bee at Columbia, Missouri, the seat of the University of Missouri, with students as enwrapped and approving spectators of the glorious deed, brings to mind a suggestion which we have often wanted, but have lacked opportunity until now, to make. We refer to the idea, wholly and proudly our own, that the art of lynching be made a regular part of the curriculum in the colleges and universities of this country. Every reason, at once of common-sense and of idealism, would seem to support the recommendation. Here is lynching a well-recognized and thoroughly established institution of our American life. Patriotic citizens are again and again called upon to join lynching parties, and do their share in stringing up nooses, piling faggots, and shooting roasted corpses. It is inevitable, in lack of proper training, that the process should frequently be carried out in a bungling and halting fashion. Hence the advisability, nay the necessity, of education in the art! Let every freshman in every institution of higher learning be made to take "Lynching I" as a required course. Instruction should include the history of the practice, its unique relation to the democratic ideals of American life, its justification from legal and ethical standpoints, together with a survey of the best approved methods. Higher courses for juniors and seniors should take up such especial points as how to roast the victim slowly, how best to torture women, laboratory tests for securing the maximum of pain and ignominy. Specimen "Niggers" for practice tests could undoubtedly be secured in abundance from Georgia jails and Florida peonage camps. That the students would welcome an innovation of this kind is shown impressively by what took place at the University of Missouri, on April 29 last. We might add that we have not copyrighted this idea, but pass it on gratis to our seats of learning East and West.

IF the agitation for a Federal anti-lynching bill had anything to do with the spirit shown by the county sheriff, the city firemen, and the State guardsmen in Savannah, Georgia, on June 20, then we hope that anti-lynching bills will be regularly debated at every session of Congress. A determined mob of 2,000 citizens attempted to storm the jail and lynch an eighteen-year-old Negro boy charged with rape. Sheriff Merrit W. Dixon collected a few deputies and warned the oncoming mob that the first man trying to enter the gate would be shot. The mob stood its ground. A sousing with fire hose still did not break it up. It hurled bricks and stones at the sheriff's party, and even shot at them. Finally a detachment of guardsmen firing over the heads of the mob dispersed it. One man was killed. At the request of Savannah's mayor the city was put under martial law, and the Negro boy is still safe in jail. It shows—as has been shown before—that a sheriff with red blood in his veins can maintain the dignity of his position and prevent a lynching despite the most embittered mob. Fifty members of the mob were arrested by the military authorities; sixteen were held. These men were caught red-handed; if the people of Savannah see to it that they are punished as they should be we shall take new heart. Something seems to be happening in the South; in the first six months of 1923 only one-third as many lynchings occurred as in the first half of 1922. There is just one way for the South to prove that a Federal anti-lynching bill is unnecessary—that is to stop lynching.

SIXTEEN hundred Negroes have been lynched in these United States in this twentieth century; thirty-four Negroes have been burned alive since the armistice. Respect for the sovereign rights of our States kept Congress, however, from passing a Federal anti-lynching bill. Twenty-two men were killed in cold blood in the Herrin riots a year ago, and no one has been punished for it. Two of these men were foreigners—Mexicans. Northwestern Arkansas has been ruled by a mob calling itself a "citizens' committee which hung one innocent striker, flogged others, and deported still more—and the Governor of the State condones the situation. And now, to prove that we are a civilized nation, understanding the rights and duties of a great state to its nationals, the newspapers report that we may send an army to protect our citizens—in China.

BINGHAMTON N. Y. SUN
MAY 3, 1923

WHERE THE BLAME LIES

That Missouri sheriff who stood idly by and allowed a mob to work at the jail until it had gained entrance and taken away a Negro to lynch him, is not to be blamed too much. He did what he firmly believed the community in which he lived and the state as well—if, indeed, not the whole country—would approve. He had been informed, time and time again, that other mobs in other counties of other states had done just as the mob was doing in his own county. Furthermore, he knew that when a mob broke into a jail and lynched a Negro that no punishment followed for anybody—not even for a sheriff who permitted the mob to do its murderous work without molestation.

The people of a community in the last analysis are responsible for a lynching. Take the case of the Herrin massacre. If tomorrow the conditions at Herrin were similar to those which led up to the horrible butchery we should again see that awful crime repeated. And this time it would be even worse because the people of Herrin and Williamson County have now set the seal of their definite approval on the work of last year's murderous mob.

Had that Missouri sheriff felt that swift and sure punishment would be meted out to him for failing to do his duty, and had he thought for a moment that public sentiment would be outraged to the point where the mob would be brought to book for its work, he would, doubtless, have prevented the lynching.

We cannot imagine the people of Binghamton taking in a spirit of calm acceptance such an attack upon our jail for such a purpose. Our sheriff would either do his duty and protect his prisoner or the community would demand that he be removed and furthermore it would demand the punishment of the mob members. We know that we run some risk in saying this, because it has happened in some communities seemingly like ours that such outrages have been committed and the outcome has been just what it will be in that Missouri case. Still we do say that we believe we know this neighborhood so well we are justified in declaring that it would never permit to pass without a ripple such an atrocity as the one which we are discussing.

Public sentiment in some states has never yet been definitely against such fiendish crimes and that fact explains why sheriff after sheriff permits the mob spirit to prevail and makes a mockery of his duties without feeling that any blame attaches to him—indeed, with the feeling that he is simply letting public sentiment have its way as he should. The communities where mobs form and wreak their bloody vengeance on prisoners are the reprehensible parties in practically every instance.

Lynchings—1923.
Discussions.

White Press, (North Carolina).

1311

ASHEVILLE, N. C.

AUG 1 1923

Before And After Lynching

Two early morning lynchings in Georgia well served Governor Walker as a text for an admirable homily on law and order. The Governor will use all the power of his office "to prevent disorder and lawlessness in Georgia."

This is fine—and ineffectual. The lynching parties had broken up some hours before the Governor issued his appeal for law and order. Possibly this morning or the next morning other lynchers will successfully defy the State and "get away with it" in spite of Governor Walker's determination to uphold due process of law.

Governor Walker faces tremendous difficulties in the effort to give vast rural areas adequate police protection, but it is not unkind to suggest that a fundamental step making law prevail is to have sheriffs familiarize themselves with the duty of staying on the job, especially when they have prisoners to protect. The Associated Press dispatch carrying the story of these reversions to barbarism has this illuminating statement: "In both cases when the sheriffs reached the scene, the mobs were said already to have dispersed." At the Bleckley County Jail, neither sheriff nor other officer was on guard, according to the information current.

Liquor is a bad thing and it was a fortunate day for these United States when moral sentiment, even among the non-teetotalers, waxed strong enough to outlaw intoxicating beverages. Good citizens deplore the public indifference to enforcement of Prohibition, but many good people forget that they must fight for the supremacy of all the laws if Prohibition is to be successful. Too many otherwise exemplary citizens wink at lynching, excusing it as a savage punishment fitting a savage crime, and having nothing to say when even sneak-thieves are strung up by the mob. What Georgia and all other American States need is regeneration of public opinion on the issue of upholding all the laws, and with that revival of lawlessness there must be police organization to disperse mobs before they act instead of lecturing them afterward.

Durham N. C

Senior N. C Sun News

JUN 19 1923

WHAT DELAYED UNCLE GIP

There is a corner in a Southern State, down near the Mississippi river, where formerly lynchings occurred more frequently than they do these times. In the days before the rural free delivery system was adopted Uncle Gip Thomas held the contract for delivering the mail in this neighborhood. So regular was he that the residents almost could set their clocks by him.

But one day he was nearly two hours late in reaching the end of the line, where there was a tiny crossroads hamlet. Just as the citizens were forming a posse to set out in search of him, in fear that some mishap had befallen him, Uncle Gip ambled into view.

"What delayed you, Uncle Gip?" asked the postmaster. "Did you happen to an accident or did an accident happen to you?"

"Nary one, or both," stated Uncle Gip. "But about 10 o'clock this mornin' jes' before I crossed the creek, I came to where some of the boys had done left a feller hangin' right thar in the public road. Well, suh, my mare she got skeered and shied back, and I jes' natchally could not make her go past him noways; so finally I had to tear down a panel of rail fence and lead him through the gap and lay the fence back up again and go through the woods down into the hollow and ford the creek a-a then tear another gap in the fence before I could get back again on the turnpike—and that was what kept me so late."

Uncle Gip paused a moment and then went on again in an aggrieved tone: "Honest, boys, it does look to me like there oughter be a law against leavin' a feller hangin' in the public road."

AUG 24 1923

THE SOUTH AND THE DYER BILL

The Daily News has no great faith in the efficacy of the Dyer anti-lynching bill. Federal grand juries are drawn fro the same population that supplies state grand juries, and we do not understand why they should be expected to return indictments more readily when they are sitting in a federal court-room than when they are sitting in a state court-room. A juror who has no respect for an oath administered by a state judge has no more respect for the same oath when it is administered by a federal judge.

At the same time, the Daily News regrets the intransigent attitude of many southern members of Congress on this bill. If they believe as we do that the bill is worthless, they are justified in voting against it, but we respectfully submit that they are in no position to make a spectacular and determned fight against its passage. Mr. Borah can filibuster against the Dyer bill with much more propriety than a senator or representative from the south, for the simpel season that the state of Idaho is not under suspicion of preferring Judge Lynch to any other jurist, whereas the south lies under that suspicion; which is proved by the every existence of the bill itself.

Moreover, it is all poppy-cock to allege that the Dyer bill is an unprecedented invasion of states' rights As an invasion of states rights it is not to be mentioned in the same half-hour with the Volstead law, which the south not only accepted with enthusiasm, but was largely instrumental in foisting upon the rest of the cuntry. Afted the Volstead law, the federal farm loan act, the Shepherd-Towner act, and a dozen other invasions of state affairs by the federal authority, it is ridiculous to talk of the Dyer anti-lynching bill as an outrageous usurpation of state authority. Such talk leaves the unpleasane impression that the talker is using it to mask his real reason for opposing the bill.

Such suspicion will the more easily attach to a southerner since the south is already under suspicion on account of the innumerable outbreaks of mob violence that have disgraced it recently. Marcon Georgia, and Tulsa, Oklahoma, are steadily making friends for the Dyer bill. Mer Rouge, Louisiana, brought it a host of supporters, and Lumberton, North Carolina, has helped it along. The presence of Judge Grady on the bench in this state furnishes an excellent reason why members of mobs should not be tried in state coutrs. North Carolinans understand, of course, that the chances are 19 to one against the trial of an alleged lyncher before the Ku Klux judge; but the rest of the country is not in mightily impressed by the fact that we have 10 judges who are not suspected of being kluckers; it is mightily impressey by the fact that we have one who is. Therefore it is inclined to support the Dyer bill, and if North Carolina senators and representatives make much of a fight against that bill, they will inevitably arouse the feeling that North Carolina is interested, not in the protection of the states' rights, but in the protection of lynchers and flogers.

That is far from the truth, but we are discussing now, not the facts, but the impression that outsiders will reasonably gain. We have too much lawlessness in the south to be hot against any measure that proposes to reduce lawlessness.—**Greensboro Daily News.**

High Point, N. C., Enterprise

JUL 28 1923

THE IDENTICAL IMPULSE

Yesterday's dispatches carried a news story of an attack by a frenzied white mob on a jail with the intent to break through and lynch a negro held for criminal assault. In the crash, one fatality and other casualties occurred. The officers protected their prisoner.

The incident was not in Georgia, South Carolina or any other southern state. It occurred in Michigan. Last week, a squad of officers rescued a negro in New York from a mob that was just about to finish him and were prevented from accomplishing a lynching by the delay in finding a pole to which the negro might be hanged. The negro was accused of an attempted assault.

There is very little difference between these incidents and numerous southern outbreaks under similar provocation. The ribald might suggest that an outstanding distinction is discoverable in the fact that offi-

cers were courageous in doing their full duty, and that the mob did not succeed in its murderous purpose, but that would be an irrelevancy. The point is that a crime that would incense a southern population will arouse a northern. Circumstances that conduce to lynching are not a matter of regions.

RALEIGH, N. C., Observer.

JUL 6 - 1923

Not a lynching occurred in North Carolina the past six months. This is to the credit of the State. But the blot of that affair in Robeson where women were beaten will not out.

WINSTON SALEM, N. C., Journal

DEC 23 1923

Morrison and the Negro.

When Cameron Morrison was running for Governor, there were those who said he could not be fair to the negroes of North Carolina. And to prove that they knew what they were talking about, they pointed to the candidate's Red Shirt record.

That was an interesting and inspiring record—so inspiring, in fact, that the Democratic voters couldn't forget it when they went to the polls on those two primary days back in the summer of 1920.

But if any of those who supported Cameron Morrison because of his Red Shirt record thought to elect a Governor who would be prejudiced against the negro, they have lived to learn that they were badly fooled in their man.

For no man has ever occupied the Governor's chair in North Carolina who tried to do more for the protection of the colored people in their just rights than Governor Morrison has done. He has come to be recognized as about the most earnest and efficient foe of lynching who ever lived in this Commonwealth.

When a negro committed the most atrocious crime at Spruce Pine and was being hounded down by a mob bent on lynching, the Governor rushed troops to the scene and not only saved the culprit from a violent death, but preserved the rights of other negroes and made their jobs safe for them after they had been told to move on and never come back.

And again, when the report reached Governor Morrison's ears that there was danger of a lynching in Nash county, the Governor took steps immediately to prevent it, and succeeded. For this action he was roundly criticized by the county officials. But the Chief Executive replied that he had no apology to make or excuse to offer for using all the power at his command to prevent mob violence, and that the way to prevent such lawlessness was not to wait until after the mob had formed, but to beat the mob on the job.

In the light of the Governor's record it is not surprising, therefore, to learn that two of the greatest leaders of the negro race in North Carolina have written him expressing their own deep appreciation and also the gratitude of their people for his fairness to the negroes of the State. One of these leaders says: "I feel that your record is a challenge to my race such as we have never had before." And the other tells the Governor that he has proven to the negroes "that the Southern white people can be trusted and are their friends."

To the surprise of many who did not know Cameron Morrison so well as some of his friends knew him, the "Red Shirt Governor" bids fair to go down in history as one of the best friends the negroes of North Carolina ever had. For in every emergency the Governor now in power has shown the colored people why it is that a friend in need is a friend indeed.

RALEIGH, N. C., Observer

DEC 28 1923

WHY LYNCHING DECREASES.

The fact that there were fewer lynchings last year than ordinarily has set the highbrows to work to give the reason for the reduction. History has been called "letting the people do things of importance and afterwards letting historians come along and assign some reason for their action never dreamed of by the people who really made history." That about explains the labored explanations of the reduction of lynchings.

As a matter of fact, who can explain the processes of a brute who lays hands upon a woman or assassinates an inoffensive citizen or perpetrates some other horrible crime which have been followed by lynching? And who can explain a mob, indignant over a revolting crime, excited to the nth degree, who band together to lynch the criminal, thus making lawbreakers of themselves? When some student of the human brain and human conduct can explain these horrible mental processes which precede the horrible crimes, then—and not until then—it will be possible to explain why there were fewer lynchings in 1923 than in 1922 or 1903 or some other date. The annual lynching totals in recent years runs as follows, beginning with 1903: 102, 87, 66, 67, 63, 86, 70, 74, 71, 64, 52, 69, 54, 38, 64, 83, 61, 26. The encouraging aspect of these figures is the general downward tendency, although a marked drop one year has usually been followed by an increase. In the 15 years before 1903 the lynching totals were almost wholly in the hundreds, reaching as high as 208 in the year 1892 and 135 in a year as late as 1901. There has unquestionably been great improvement if the 33-year period since 1890 be studied.

Some of our brother editors, who assume to be masters of psychology (is there any such a thing?) tell us that the reduction in lynchings was due to "the anxiety of the Southern whites to check the Northern migration of the negroes." The Springfield *Republican*, commenting on that reason, says:

No one could dispute the effect of such a feeling but the negro migration has been in progress for some six years without much of any appreciable effect on lynchings until 1923. Viewing the past 33 years as a whole, one feels justified in believing that the American people are coming more and more to appreciate the moral peril to their civilization of the bestial indulgence in mob murders which has so terribly disgraced them in the past, and are slowly getting a strangle hold on this national evil.

Exactly. It is a better Public Opinion, voiced by chief executives and others, which is doing all that can be done to decrease bestial crimes and lynching.

The Law must be over and above all.

Wilmington, N. C. News-Dispatch

DEC 29 1923

SHEARS AND PASTE

WHY LYNCHINGS DECREASE.

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The Law must be over and above all.—Raleigh News and Observer.

Lynchings—1923
Discussions.

White Press, Ohio,.

1285

m ALLIANCE, O. REVIEW

te DEC 28 1923

LYNCHINGS IN UNITED STATES IN 1923.

Unless there are further outbreaks, the year 1923 will end with a record of twenty-six persons lynched in the United States. This number is by far the smallest list of lynchings in which men have visited punishment by death outside the law for crimes, real or alleged, since 1889.

The peak in lynchings was in 1892, when 208 persons met death at the hands of mobs.

In many years the number was more than a hundred, and with the exception of this year, it was not under fifty until 1917, when there was a decline to 38. The next year there were 64; in 1918, 83; in 1920, 61; in 1921, 64, and in 1922, 61.

However, no record on lynchings can be said to be good as long as there is occasion to enumerate any examples of people taking it on themselves to inflict punishment without due process of law.

Nevertheless, the record of 1923 shows a commendable improvement.

It was two years ago that a special section of a Georgia state committee on inter-racial co-operation, which was composed of women, appealed to the public against the brutality which has so often been defended on the ground that it was for the protection of women.

The members of the committee were agreed that there was no crime more dangerous than that which strikes at the root of, and undermines, constituted authority; substitutes mob violence and masked irresponsibility for established justice, and protects society against barbarism.

Continued migration of negroes northward and agitation for Federal anti-lynching laws are cited by the National Association for Advancement of Colored People as causes for this year's decrease. No doubt they have had a salutary effect. But no doubt the truth the Southern women are preaching is sinking in.

Respect for the law that is compelled is never as effective as respect that grows out of an awakened consciousness of wrong.

Lynching is lawlessness, and lawlessness breeds more lawlessness. Leaders in the South long have been preaching that. Due weight should be accorded the effect of their words.

Lynchings - 1923
Discussions.

White Press (Pennsylvania).

1286

Brownsville Ca Telegram
Sept 1923

BLACK AND WHITE

Last year there were 57 lynchings in the United States, most of them of colored individuals. A paragraph or two sufficed to describe the incidents to newspaper readers. But in Louisiana two white men of questionable character met death at the hands of a mob, and for months thousands of columns of news space have been devoted to a minute description of every phase of the horrifying murder. The contract serves to show the relative value placed by southerners on the lives of white and colored persons. To murder a suspected negro is only a matter of course, but to kill a white man is a horrible outrage against the laws of the state.

Lynchings—1923
Discussion

White Press. (Pennsylvania).

1287

PITTSBURG PA DISPATCH
FEBRUARY 8, 1923

tartling Facts About Lynching

Some cts about our national lynching record, which can only be described as startling, are revealed by the commission on race relations of the Federal Council of Churches. How many realize that only four States, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, New Hampshire and Vermont, have never had a lynching, that only one-third of the States have not had a lynching in the last ten years? As a Nation we enjoy an enviable reputation for respect for women, yet since 1889, 83 women have been murdered by mobs in the United States, some by torture and burning. Nor, while the mob fury is chiefly directed at one race, has it been confined so largely to that one, as most people may imagine. From 1885 to 1921, 1,028 white persons and 3,069 Negroes were slain by mobs in this country, that is, one out of every four lynched was white, including, it must be noted, 17 women! With the increasing tendency to mob violence and lawlessness, it is the more imperative that every means be employed to impress the fundamental common necessity of respect for law and order. Next Sunday has been set for pulpit discussion of the subject, as a preliminary to a Nation-wide campaign against lynching and the mob spirit. There is no graver problem before the Nation.

PHILADELPHIA PA RECORD
MAY 2 1923

Governor Hyde, of Missouri, is now busily engaged in locking the stable door after the horse has been stolen. He announces that the lynching at the university town of Columbia will be thoroughly investigated. But there would be no need now for any such action if the State authorities had behaved with a proper conception of their duty in the first place. The sheriff of the county of Boone, in which the mob carried out its wild will with the sheriff himself and several policemen "standing helplessly by," has publicly admitted that "we had been afraid this thing would happen for a week." Yet nothing was done about it. The Governor will scarcely be able to wash this stain off the State's escutcheon. If he would pay less attention to the World Court and more to the business of his own Commonwealth it would be greatly to the benefit of Missouri's reputation.

PHILADELPHIA PA RECORD
MAY 1 1923

The lynching negro at Columbia, Mo., on Sunday d in it one element which added much to the ordinary ugliness of such horrors. Although President Loeb, of the University of Missouri, has issued a statement that "as far as my information goes, no university students took an active part in the lynching," the fact remains that at least a passive part was taken by many of the students; and the disgusting and alarming thing about it is that girl students were plentifully represented in the crowd that watched the ringleaders tie the noose about the victim's neck and toss his body over the bridge. This exemplifies, as scarcely anything else could, the demoralizing, brutalizing effect of the lynching habit upon the whites of both sexes; and it was only a few days ago that several organizations of women in Louisiana and other Southern States were moved to pass resolutions strongly condemning this hideous form of mob justice.

ALLENTOWN PA CALL
MAY 8, 1923

CONVICTIONS THE BEST CURE FOR LYNCHINGS

Results of the indictments brought in Missouri as the result of a lynching at the University of Missouri of one James T. Scott will be watched with interest for here there is at this time at least indications of a community divided on the issue. So often in lynchings just about everybody in the community is tied up in the affair either directly or indirectly that it is impossible either to get indictments or to secure convictions in the case that indictments are brought.

In the Missouri case, however, there were protests against the action of the mob by influential people, including the father of the girl who reported the attempt at assault.

Until there are convictions for lynching it will be a favorite sport for night-riders, hooded gangs and maddened hoodlums. The way to stop lynchings is to secure prosecutions and convictions. It is remembered how the thugs of India committed numberless assassinations while their terrorism went unchallenged. Then the British army went in and arrested and hung the ring-leaders, which stopped all the love of the rest of the gang for thuggery. Once upon a time the Molly Maguries reigned supreme in the coal regions. They were a law unto themselves and a pretty mess they made of justice during their reign of terror. After the leaders had been captured, their crimes fastened upon them and convictions secured in spite of intimidation the Molly Maguires ceased as an organization and ceased functioning as they had done untrammelled for so long a time.

Convictions in just about every state, where men think in terms of lynching and speak of it carelessly in cases in which their communities are not concerned but thereby develop a frame of mind that makes them ready for the lawless act when an occasion arises, will do more than all the preaching and editorializing of all the pulpits and newspapers can do.

President Coolidge has his work cut out. He must suppress lawlessness that is if American ideals are to characterize his administration. The South is a roaring furnace of hell and lawlessness, the North, East and West are hardly any better. Government in most states has become a joke—an object of ridicule and contempt. Texas, Florida, Georgia, Alabama, Oklahoma and Illinois are states being turned upside down by the lawless element. They have been making real contributions to our civilization—in brutality. In view of what has already been done in these states, there seems some excuse for the rising tide of revolution in America.

Lynchings - 1923
Discussions

White Press (New York)

1288

Happy New Year!

Survey Jan 15-23

MASKED horsemen headed by the fiery cross, the swift and anonymous punishment of the evil doer or reward of the virtuous—such is the romantic side of community regulation of morality which has been sweeping over many parts of the United States. The mutilated bodies of two white men in a Louisiana lake—a negro boy of fifteen burned at the stake in Georgia—the discovery of members of the sheriff's office in a raiding party in California—these aspects are more disconcerting.

Whether it be a backwash of the war, or perhaps a perverted revolt against the too sluggish current of life in some communities, there seems to be an increasing use of violence to enforce the views of a neighborhood or an individual. Where industrial conflicts are acute, there are industrial mobbings, and I. W. W.'s by the score are driven from Portland or from the Kansas wheat fields, or are hunted one by one from the oil fields of Louisiana and Texas. In country districts or in small towns an outraged public morality has resulted in the flogging or tarring and feathering of literally scores of persons during the past year. Even political heresy is avenged—a white Republican editor in Democratic Florida was flogged and warned to change his views, a negro Republican in Oklahoma was forced by his masked political opponents to eat his own ear.

In the big cities, where there is no rigid community code, an increasing number of murders and suicides bear witness in another way to a rising tide of violence. Figures just issued by the Department of Commerce show that the "homicide death rate" rose from 7.1 per 100,000 of the population in 1920 to 8.5 in 1921, when nearly as many persons were murdered as were killed by typhoid fever. Suicides increased from 10.2 to 12.6 in the same period. Statistics recently compiled for a number of cities during 1922 indicate that this past year probably saw similar increases.

Some pessimist has declared that a high suicide rate and a high cancer rate are indications of civilization the world over. Lynching and its related forms of mob violence are, however, a peculiarly American tradition. Aside from strikes and riots, some sixty persons, most of them negroes, were put to death by mobs during 1922. This is about the figure which has prevailed during recent years, the regularly recurring symptom of some disease underlying American civilization. The increasing sweep of violence to express intolerance or racial, religious and political minorities defines boldly the need of America for a social psychiatrist who can diagnose the ill behind the many manifestations of bigotry and provide a moral equivalent of the Ku Klux Klan.

N Y C WORLD
FEBRUARY 11, 1923

A TEXAS LYNCHING, AND LATER.

From Waco, Tex., comes the news of the confession of a mulatto under arrest to the murder of five persons there during the last two years. Other murders are expected to be cleared by his admissions. Naturally the Sheriff, as he should, fearing mob violence, took extraordinary measures for the protection of the County Jail.

In the same connection, the despatches relate, "a Negro was burned at the stake a year ago for one of the murders to which Mitchell confessed." So the old lynching rule, in force in many parts of the South, works out as so often before. In the heat of excitement, in the lust of bloodshed, a mob captures and burns at the stake a Negro on the suspicion merely that he had committed a murder. The lynchers had no time to wait for evidence, least of all for a legal trial, so they "took the law into their own hands." And the sequel is that a year later another Negro confesses that he committed the murder for which the first one was burned at the stake.

What gives especial point to the story as told in the news from Waco is that it is not an exceptional case, as lynching is commonly practised. The question of guilt is secondary. Right or wrong, the mob commits murder and afterward discovers the guilty man escaped punishment.

N Y C WORLD
MARCH 23, 1923

New York, March 21.

Bull Fighting and Lynching.

To the Editor of The World:

I have read the article contributed to the columns of The World by J. B. Lanier and published on March 19, in which the writer advises us not to worry about the cruelty of bull fighting in Spain, but to take notice of the atrocious deeds of our own countrymen. "America," he writes, "has no right to set itself up as an example for any other country." Very good! But when Mr. Lanier refers to the South as a section of our country that has never been civilized and where roasting people alive is the most popular sport, he shows how prejudiced and bigoted a person he must be.

I am not attempting to defend mob spirit. Any one who has made a study of government knows how detrimental such spirit is to a good government. But, because here and there a lynching has occurred, should the entire South be branded as uncivilized? Because these lynchings have taken place, has Mr. Lanier proved that "burning people alive is the most popular sport in the South"? If so, here too, in the North, we are uncivilized and cold-blooded murder is our favorite sport. Surely the mine massacre at Herrin, Ill., was as barbarous and brutal an occurrence as any lynching in the South.

IRVING W. REISMAN.

New York, March 21.

The whole subject of lynching and the best means of dealing with the evil of mob-violence is ever in the minds of forward-looking people in America. Grave though the evil may still be, it is satisfactory to note that there were seven less lynchings last year than in 1921, the actual total being fifty-seven. The American Press does not mince words on the subject. The *San Antonio Express* refers to the matter as "the most damnable record in all the statistics of human affairs—the annual record of lynchings in the United States." American reformers have, however, solid grounds for satisfaction, since on fifty-eight occasions last year the officers of the law prevented lynching and in ten instances penitentiary sentences were secured against alleged lynchers.

The Spectator 2-10-23

Among the agencies fighting racial prejudice in the Southern States must be mentioned the Federation of Women's Clubs, Welfare Boards and Church organizations. A group of North Carolina women, representing these bodies, has issued a humane and vigorous statement on the inter-racial situation. One or two paragraphs are given below and deserve the widest publicity:—

New York Times - 1923

"We believe that unrest existing between two different races dwelling side by side under the same economic system and the same government can be lessened, and eventually dispelled, by a course of justice and fair play.

We believe that every human being should be treated not as a means to another's ends, but as a person whose aspirations toward self-realization must be recognized; that we must cherish racial integrity and racial self-respect, as well as such mutual respect as will lead each to higher moral levels, to mutual trust and helpfulness.

No family and no race rises higher than its womanhood. Hence the intelligence of women must be cultivated and the purity and dignity of womanhood must be protected by the maintenance of a single standard of morals for both races.

We believe that violence has no place where people lend their support in every possible way to the agencies constituted by the people for the apprehension, trial and punishment of offenders against society. We resent the assertion that criminality can be controlled by lawless outbreaks and woman's honour protected by savage acts of revenge."

N. Y. C. EVENING WORLD
DECEMBER 13, 1923

LYNCHING DECREASING, CHURCHMEN ARE TOLD

Ku Klux Branded for Racial Antipathies.

COLUMBUS, O., Dec. 13 (Associated Press).—A statement presented to the Executive Committee of the Federal Council of Churches to-day by its Commission on Race Relations declared indications are that 1923 will have only half as many lynchings as 1922.

The statement of the commission presented by Dr. George E. Haynes of New York told of the campaign of education against lynching carried on by the churches, of the remarkable co-operation given by the press, and said that in the first six months of 1923 there were only fourteen lynchings in the United States, thirteen of them being Negro victims. In the first six months of 1922 there were thirty lynchings and in the first six months of 1921 there were thirty-three.

The greatest menace to better relations between the Negroes and whites is the Ku Klux Klan, Mrs. W. C. Winsborough, St. Louis, Superintendent of the Woman's Auxiliary of the Presbyterian Church in the United States (South), declared in an address before the committee.

NEW YORK CITY MAIL
DECEMBER 13, 1923

LYNCHINGS CUT HALF IN YEAR

Campaign by Federal Church Council Brings Results.

Columbus, Ohio, Today (By A. P.).—The last twelve months have made a gold year in the lynching record of the country. It was declared in a statement presented to afternoon session of the execu-

tive committee of the Federal Council of Churches today by its commission on race relations.

Indications are that 1923 will have only half as many lynchings as 1922, according to the report. J. J. Eagan, of Atlanta, Ga., is chairman of the committee, and W. W. Alexander, of Atlanta, and Dr. George E. Haynes, of New York, are secretaries.

The statement of the commission told of the campaign of education against lynching carried on by the churches, of the remarkable co-operation given by the press of the country, not only in the South but also in the North, and said that in the first six months of 1923 there were only fourteen lynchings in the United States, thirteen of them being negro victims. In the first six months of 1922 there were thirty lynchings and in the first six months in 1921 there were thirty-three.

Dr. Haynes told of the conferences held during the year, of the progress made in bringing about interracial goodwill and understanding.

The report calls upon the churches to continue their work for interracial good will and declares that the racial problems of the country can only be settled on Christian principles and ideals. The committee holds out the hope that by the churches marshaling their forces the lynching evil may be completely eliminated in another year.

BROOKLYN N. Y. EAGLE
DECEMBER 13, 1923

LYNCHINGS ON WANE, DR. HAYNES REPORTS TO CHURCH COUNCIL

Columbus O., Dec. 13—(By the Associated Press)—The last 12 months have made a gold year in the lynching record of the country, it was declared in a statement presented to the afternoon session of the executive committee of the Federal Council of Churches today by its commission on race relations. Indications are that 1923 will have only half as many lynchings as 1922, according to the report made by Dr. George E. Haynes of New York. He said that in the first six months of 1923 there were only 14 lynchings in the United States, 13 of them being negro victims. In the first six months of 1922, there were 30 lynchings and in the first six months of 1921 there were 33.

The greatest menace to better relations between the negroes and whites is the Ku-Klux Klan, Mrs. W. C. Winsborough, St. Louis, superintendent of the Woman's Auxiliary of the Presbyterian Church in the United States (South) declared in an address today before the meeting of the executive committee. She asserted it is "organized anarchy, breaking up homes, terrorizing communities, torturing and slaying victims and accomplishing its diabolical purpose with covered face."

"Much of the sectarian animosity among the churches has passed away; the Protestant churches are co-operating rather than competing," declared Bishop Thomas Nicholson, of the Methodist Episcopal Church of Chicago, speaking today at the annual meeting of the executive committee. At the same time he said he did not advocate the abolition of denominations, but believed in greater co-operation.

NEW YORK CITY SUN
DECEMBER 5, 1923

An Antidote for Lynching.

From the Portland Oregonian.

Outbreaks of mob law are often due to knowledge that the Sheriff is either in secret sympathy with the mob or is too timid to oppose it or is glad to shirk an arduous duty by letting it have its way. A Minnesota Sheriff recently gave an example of fidelity to duty and quickness of wit which thwarted a lynching mob, captured a murderer and insured his trial by a lawful court.

A posse started in search of a man who had killed four persons in one day, and would doubtless have become a lynching mob if it had caught him. The Sheriff learned where the murderer had hidden, started the posse on a false scent in another direction and, with the aid of one assistant, captured his man and put him in jail before the mob learned that it had been tricked.

If the higher officials of each State had some means of rewarding that kind of Sheriff and could impeach and send to the penitentiary the kind that meekly surrenders a prisoner to a mob, there would be a perceptible decrease in the number of lynchings. As a rule, the courage of a mob is collective; knowledge that he is a lawbreaker makes each individual in it a coward. Such a mob can usually be cowed by a few determined men with the authority of the law behind them. When an exception occurs the reason is that the men in authority above the Sheriff are men of putty.

THE hand-cuffed, bullet-riddled body of Ben Hart, a Negro farm hand, was picked up on the road near Jacksonville, Florida, shortly after midnight, on August 25. Investigation by the sheriff's office showed that the mob had slain an innocent man who had spent all of Thursday night in a logging camp near Onshore, where he worked, and that he could not have been the peeper who looked in a girl's window ten miles away. When an innocent person is thus casually done to death it adds a note of horror to a crime that is black enough when the victim is a convicted criminal. Lynching, as a form of misguided chivalry, has been definitely proscribed by the Women's General Committee of the Commission on Inter-racial Cooperation which met in Asheville, North Carolina, on August 1. The committee said:

Whereas lynching, at one time practiced only as punishment by the mob for the violation of womanhood, is now resorted to even for robbery, petty crime, or no crime . . . and whereas we are overwhelmed with a deep sense of humiliation that this hideous crime is heralded abroad as the only means available to men for the protection of womanhood, and whereas we likewise suffer because of the seeming impotence of our State governments in the protection of human life and in their inability to find and punish lynchers and members of mobs . . . therefore, be it resolved, that we deplore the failure of State governments to handle this, the most flagrant violation of the Constitution of our great nation; that we definitely set ourselves the task of creating such sentiment . . . that not only sufficient laws shall be enacted . . . but to secure the enforcement of the laws now in existence.

Lynchings – 1923
Discussions

White Press (New York).

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N Y C GLOBE
JANUARY 17, 1923

THE ARKANSAS MOB MURDER.

The mob of Arkansas farmers who hanged a railroad striker may be morally different from the union sympathizers at Herrin, Ill., who brutally murdered mine guards and officials, but so far as the maintenance of the law is concerned the result of their action is the same. It is inconceivable that such an act could have occurred in any northern European country save Russia. The habit of lynching Negroes, which is popular in Illinois and in Arkansas, breeds a contempt for the law which does not draw the color line. Consequently the country has the spectacle of a rich man who dared give bail for an accused striker whipped by a mob. As to the origin of the Arkansas outrages, it is desirable to suspend judgment pending further information, but concerning the remedy there is no doubt. The enactment of a federal anti-lynching law, with the assurance that the gentry who are addicted to this civilizing pastime will have the opportunity to explain their views on mob murder and torture to an impartial jury, will have a cooling effect upon emotions which now are uncontrolled. Congress ought in the name of decency to revive the pending bill and force it through to passage.

JULY 14, 1923

DYER SAYS MOB WINS AGAIN

Anti-Lynching Congressman Expected Columbia, Mo., Acquittal.

ST. LOUIS, July 13.—The acquittal yesterday of George W. Barkwell at Columbia, Mo., on a charge of murder in connection with the lynching of James Scott, a negro, was no surprise to Congressman Leonidas C. Dyer of St. Louis, author of the Anti-Lynching bill that was brought before Congress.

"The verdict," said Mr. Dyer, "furnishes more evidence of the failure to punish mob violence, especially in cases of negro lynchings. It is a failure to give the equal protection guaranteed by the Fourteenth Amendment of the United States Constitution.

"The case merely furnishes additional evidence of the necessity of passing a congressional bill to punish mob violence. There would be convictions if such cases were tried in the Federal courts and the result of these convictions would be that lynchings in the United States would soon cease."

Mr. Dyer referred to statistics which, he said, showed that 3,824 lynchings had been recorded during the last thirty-five years and that in all these cases there had scarcely been a conviction.

COLUMBIA, Missouri, is the seat of culture of Missouri, the home of the State University. A Negro was lynched there last April. A member of the mob, George W. Barkwell, was recently tried for murder and acquitted. A university student identified him as the man who put the noose around the Negro's neck and shoved him off the bridge. For this the student, Charles Nutter, has been ostracized by fellow-fraternity men and threatened with lynching by the townsmen. W. E. Smith, a bank cashier, testified that he and Barkwell were talking together thirty-five feet from the Negro when he was lynched, and added: "I was standing on the bridge when I heard the crowd shout, 'There he goes.' I wanted to get a good look at the Nigger dangling, and, believe me, I did." The audience, according to the St. Louis *Star*, thereupon "howled with glee." This same Smith said he was not in the crowd at the jail. "Doggone it, I got there too late." Again the crowd laughed. Another witness for the defense related how he had pushed through the crowd after the lynching "to take a peek at the skunk." This, too, seemed to the citizens of Missouri's cultural capital a cause for mirth. Just what is the influence of a university?

BROOKLYN N Y CITIZEN
SEPTEMBER 8, 1923

Another man lynched in Florida; and along with the victim was lynched the law of the State, the supremacy of government, the decency of citizenship. It is a fearful price that mob participants pay for their indulgence in brutishness. They may wreak their vengeance on their victim, but in so doing they forfeit their claims to respect of their fellows, work evil to their State and give notice that they do not care to be regarded as civilized. Their fellow citizens owe it to themselves, the State and the nation to put a stop to this habit of lynching. Florida can have a decent reputation if its decent citizens will get busy with the mob thugs.—Washington Post.

N Y C TELEGRAPH
JULY 3, 1923

"LYNCHINGS show big drop for first half of 1923," reads a wire from the South. But perhaps it's too hot for such demonstrations.

JULY 13, 1923

"COLOR LINE" INVADES HOUSE JUNKET CRUISE.

Secretary of Naval Committee Is of African Descent and Southrons Are Agog.

From The World's Bureau
Special Despatch to The World

WASHINGTON, July 12. — When you have a bear by the tail how can you let go without getting hurt?

Secretary of the Navy Denby wants to know. He issued invitations for the junket of the House Committee on Naval Affairs and members of their families to Panama and the Pacific Coast aboard the transport Chaumont.

One went to Frank A. Byron, secretary of the committee. Byron is of African descent, but the Navy Department has only just found that out.

Byron is a very competent secretary and decidedly a gentlemanly sort of person. But some members of the committee hail from the Solid South, some others feel the same way about it. They even threaten to stay at home.

If somebody will tell him what to do next Mr. Denby will be very grateful.

The Cowardice of Lynching Mobs

N Y C POST
JUNE 25, 1923

A Determined Sheriff Can Halt Any Crowd

By Edward O. Dean

THERE are two ways to stop lynchings. One method is for the officers of the law having a prisoner in charge to fight the mob; the other involves a moral uplift movement, seeking abolition of race prejudice and education of the people to respect orderly processes of government.

The present observations are concerned only with the first-mentioned method—the pitting of force against force, violence against violence. It has succeeded in isolated instances in the past; it succeeded a few days ago in Savannah, Ga., where a sheriff's use of machine guns upheld the majesty of the law. Whenever the day comes in the South, and in the North or West, for that matter, that sheriffs and other law enforcement officials summon enough personal courage to refuse to yield further to mob clamor and banish thoughts of the next election, that day will mark the passing of the institution of lynching.

The men and women of the South, representatives of the better element of the people there, who are carrying on an organized effort for harmonious relations between the white and the colored race, who have as their goal a square deal for the negro and an end of mobocracy through the illegal punishment of criminals after quick and impartial court proceedings, are engaged in a praiseworthy undertaking. In the long run their way may bring about the desired results.

Meanwhile these good people of the South are not getting the support to which they are entitled at the hands of their officers of the law. What if one thousand or ten thousand or a hundred thousand exemplary citizens of a great commonwealth labor diligently to wipe out the lynching disgrace by seeking to inculcate a spirit of live and let live, strive for fair play and even justice for all, labor for a higher type of citizenship by education and the example of right conduct if one timid, not to say cowardly, sheriff, with one eye on his own personal safety and the other on the next voting day, tremblingly hands over his jail keys to the mob leaders on demand?

These sheriffs have no real excuse to surrender to the mobs. There never was a mob that didn't turn tail before a courageous law officer. The bigger the mob the more arrant its cowardice.

About thirty-five years ago they had a sheriff down in Spartanburg County, South Carolina, named John Nichols. This man—I believe he is still living—is a veteran of the Civil War. During a battle in Virginia Nichols's company, behind rude breastworks, was hotly engaged with a Northern force. The Carolina youth noticed a Union soldier lying wounded in the glaring sun some yards in front of the Southern position. The Northerner was pleading in his dying moments for a drink of water.

"Damned if I don't give that fellow a drink of water if I get plugged myself in the attempt," exclaimed Nichols, as he leaped over the breastworks and hurried to the wounded soldier's side, unhooking his canteen as he ran. A hundred and one Union riflemen cracked away at him in a vain effort to bring him down, not knowing his mission of mercy. Their firing ceased and a cheer arose from the Union breastworks as the man in gray bent over the mortally wounded man in blue and held the water-filled canteen to his lips. Nichols ran back unscathed to his own lines.

This was the calibre of man who had a prisoner under his protection in Spartanburg some twenty years after the incident of the battlefield and a mob was forming to "pull off" a lynching. The streets of the little city were swarming with an excited multitude. Country folk had come in from miles around. A narrow street led from the public square to the jail and down this street the mob surged towards the prison.

The German-born Mayor of the town, a jeweller named Henneman, and Sheriff Nichols had stationed themselves before an old-fashioned smooth-bore cannon, relic of the war between the States, that had been rolled out a short time previously in front of the jail yard gate. Henneman rammed home a charge as the mob drew near, while Nichols with drawn revolver ordered the crowd to halt. He told them very plainly that there would be no lynching without some previous casualties. He was widely known as a sure shot. Henneman stood in readiness to touch off the old muzzle loader.

The mob, about five hundred or a thousand to two—although Nichols had men stationed inside the jail in the event of a storming—was well aware that somebody would get killed or injured if the sheriff's commands were not obeyed, and no one wanted to be the first to rush the Mayor and sheriff and likely be the first to receive the benefits of Nichols's bullets or Henneman's cannon ball. The result was there was no lynching. The mob was cowed by two courageous men determined that the law should take its course. In due time the prisoner was tried, convicted of murder, and hanged.

Some years later Sheriff John Vernon of the same county, with a few deputies and policemen, drove off a mob after a few shots had been fired into a crowd that sought to batter down the jail yard gate.

We know of no instance where mobs have overcome the determined resistance of the officers of the law. Lynching mobs prefer to make reasonably sure of their own safety from harm. When it is a case of walking into the jaws of death to get their man they immediately lose interest in their enterprise.

N Y C TRIBUNE
SEPTEMBER 11, 1923

The New Orleans Lynchings

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: I was interested to read Mr. Irving Blake's letter, in which he suggests under the heading of "An American Corfu?" what Italy might have done in 1891 when the citizens of New Orleans strung up some Italians.

Mr. Blake is not kind in comparing the victims of the two events, but it may be of interest to him and other readers that orders were issued to the Italian fleet, which in spite of Italy's poverty was at that time one of the most up to date in Europe and included several of the then most modern battleships and armored cruisers, while we had only a few cruisers of the Boston and Chicago type, the beginnings of our later White Squadron, to proceed to New Orleans and obtain satisfaction for the lynching of these Italians under threat of bombardment.

The late W. J. Stillman, correspondent of "The London Times" and an American citizen, called on Rudini, the Prime Minister of Italy, informing him in regard to the difficulties and dangers that such a fleet would have in going up the Mississippi to New Orleans and the possible result of such action on the part of Italy. Rudini was evidently more open to reason than Mussolini seems to be, and whereas the morning editions were full of what the Italian fleet was going to do to New Orleans, the orders to the fleet were canceled, a soft pedal was put on the matter and very little more ever heard about the incident.

I understand from a friend who has been connected in the diplomatic affairs of this country that a small indemnity was paid by our government to the families of the lynchees, it being understood that this payment was to be absolutely a matter of sympathy on our part for the bereaved.

MICHAEL STILLMAN.

New York, Sept. 10, 1923.

TO REINTRODUCE ANTI-LYNCHING BILL

THE practice of lynching is again to be brought before Congress when it convenes in December in the hope that a federal law will be enacted which will provide adequate penalties to discourage the persistent evil. Representative Dyer, of Missouri, has announced that he will reintroduce his bill and an effort will be made to push it through.

The *Catholic Transcript*, of Hartford, Conn., in an editorial under the title "No Reflection Please," has the following to say about lynching:

"It is reported that an anti-lynching bill will be presented to Congress, making it a crime against the State to murder a man for his color or his inability to measure up to the drastic requirements of 100 per cent. Americanism. It seems that this same bill has already been before our lawmakers and that it was dismissed because it was taken to be a reflection on the South.

"You must not reflect on the South, even if the South decides to set the whole world reflecting on the United States. Lynch law is regarded by ill-informed Europeans as a national asset without which America could no longer continue to be America, that wild and wooly country which foreigners dream about and talk about and laugh at. It matters not how many Europeans reflect upon the United States, but it does matter that the North should seem to reflect upon the South. And so it comes that if lynching is to stop, the remedy must not be sought in any radical prohibition concocted by the lawmakers of the United States.

"Lynching is a foul blot upon the American escutcheon because it is murder, and no ordinary murder committed under the riot of passion, or under the friendly blanket of night. It is murder most foul, done by men goading one another to the crime, and carrying out their devilish designs in the open and in full and deliberate defiance of that higher than human law, which says, 'Thou shalt not kill.'

"The American statesmen who oppose the anti-lynching law because it implies criticism, and an unfavorable reflection on the South, make an admission more damaging to the good name of the South than the proposed law itself. They set it down on the tablets that it is the South that gives cause for the legislation, and

OUR DISGRACE

IS it not a disgrace that a Hindu newspaper, the *Swarajya*, published in India, may preach a well-deserved lesson to proud America and point the finger of shame at the country which boasts of its advance in culture and civilization and which only recently posed as the saviour of other nations? It would be different if the paper from India were telling fairy tales. But what it says hurts, because what it says is true. In speaking of the race riot in Rosewood, Florida, it remarks:

"The full significance of the news item that appears elsewhere that the town of Rosewood in Florida was destroyed as the result of a collision between the Negroes and whites, we fear will not be realized by most people in our country. It is likely that in the case of nine out of every ten readers it will be passed over as a street brawl or a faction fight—which are by no means uncommon in cities—to which no special importance is attached. But it calls our attention to a great blot on American civilization, namely, the rivalry between the colored and white peoples of the States. Racial animosity is artificially kept up by Jim Crow institutions, such as hotels exclusively for Negroes, trams in which only they can travel, etc. It is this unmistakable rivalry that is responsible for the frequent cases of lynching Negroes, for which even the powerful administrative machinery of America could not find a preventive. The source of all this is to be found in the feeling ingrained in the whites, wherever they may be found, that they should dominate over the colored, whom they do not recognize as their equals. America, notwithstanding its vaunted advance in culture and civilization, in spite of its preachers and statesmen who have dreamt of the Brotherhood of Man and the Federation of the World, has not been able to make the life of the members of different communities, attracted to its shores by its valuable resources, happy and undisturbed. This is the case especially with the position of the Negroes. Ever since their liberation, the black community has progressed beyond all expectations and its members have proved themselves equal to the whites in capacity and intelligence. But the general attitude of the whites towards the Negroes has continued to be one of hostility. They cannot bring themselves to treat them as equals. Lynching of Negroes has become a scandal and those responsible for it are let go unpunished."

N Y C WORLD
JULY 20, 1923

MISSOURI MOB AND JURY.

To the Editor of The World:

Almost on the day that telegraphic reports carried news of the acquittal of George Barkwell, accused as a member of the mob that lynched James T. Scott, colored janitor of the University of Missouri, last April 29, come clippings from the Kansas City Star expressing doubt as to whether the guilty man was lynched. In fact, another man is being held in jail, charged with the crime for which Scott was publicly and brutally murdered.

The hopelessness of obtaining justice in that part of the country against the mobbists may be judged from the fact that only thirty-four out of eighty-three men could be accepted on the panel for the jury to try the case. Three of the first talesmen to be examined did not believe the case against the alleged murderer and mobbist should be prosecuted, and two talesmen were frankly in favor of mob violence on certain occasions—all this in the case of a man, probably innocent, married, with a good record, who had been murdered in the presence of a crowd partly composed of young people of both sexes.

These facts constitute an unanswerable case for a Federal Anti-Lynching Law, a case that could be matched with innumerable instances throughout the country. JAMES WELDON JOHNSON, Secretary.

New York, July 16.

Lynchings—1923.
Discussions.

White Press (South Carolina).

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Spartanburg
S. C. Times

JUL 17 1923

Brave Sheriffs

Lynchings are violations of law and detrimental to the welfare of the community in which they occur. During the first six months of 1923 the lynching record showed a splendid improvement over recent years, and it is to be hoped that it will continue.

The greatest possible step to prevent lynchings is to have officers of the law who will have bravery enough to defy a mob. When this is done in nine cases out of ten or more, the members of the mob refuse to incur liability of death by rushing a determined officer fully armed and resolute.

Edward O. Dean, of Spartanburg, recently discussed lynching in the New York *Evening Post*, and concluded that a determined sheriff can halt any crowd. Among other things he related several such occurences:

"There are two ways to stop lynchings. One method is for the officers of the law having a prisoner in charge to fight the mob; the other involves a moral uplift movement, seeking abolition of race prejudice and education of the people to respect orderly processes of government.

"The present observations are concerned only with the first-mentioned method—the pitting of force against force, violence against violence. It has succeeded in isolated instances in the past; it succeeded a few days ago in Savannah, Ga., where the use of machine guns upheld the majesty of the law. Whenever the day comes in the South, and in the North or West, for that matter, that sheriffs and other law enforcement officials summon enough personal courage to refuse to yield further to mob clamor and banish thoughts of the next election, that day will mark the passing of the institution of lynching.

"The men and women of the South, representatives of the better element of the people there, who are carrying on an organized effort for harmonious relations between the white and the colored race, who have as their goal a square deal for the negro and an end of mobocracy through the legal punishment of criminals after quick and impartial court proceedings, are engaged in a praiseworthy undertaking. In the long run their way may bring about the desired results.

"Meanwhile these good people of the South are not getting the support to which they are entitled at the hands of their officers of the law. What if one thousand or ten thousand or a hundred thousand exemplary citizens of a great Commonwealth labor diligently to wipe out the lynching disgrace by seeking to inculcate a spirit of live and let live, strive for fair play and even justice for all, labor for a higher type of citizenship by education and the example of right conduct if one timid, not to say cowardly, sheriff, with one eye on his own personal safety and the other on the next voting day, tremblingly hands over his jail keys to the mob leaders on demand?

"These sheriffs have no real excuse to surrender to the mobs. There never was a mob that didn't turn tail before a courageous law officer. The bigger the mob the more arrant its cowardice.

"About thirty-five years ago they had a sheriff down in Spartanburg County, South Carolina, named John Nicholls. . . . . This was the calibre of man who had a prisoner under his protection in Spartanburg some twenty years after the incident of the battlefield and a mob was forming to 'pull off' a lynching. The streets of the little city were swarming with an excited multitude. Country folk had come from miles around. A narrow street led from the public square to the jail and down this street the mob surged towards the prison.

"The German-born Mayor of the town, a jeweller named Henneman, and Sheriff Nichols had stationed themselves before an old-fashioned smooth-bore cannon, relic of the War Between the States, that had been rolled out a short time previously in front of the jail yard gate. Henneman rammed home a charge as the mob drew near, while Nicholls with drawn revolver ordered the crowd to halt. He told them very plainly that there would be no lynching without some previous casualties. He was widely known as a sure shot. Henneman stood in readiness to touch off the old muzzle-loader.

"The mob, about five hundred or a thousand to two—although Nicholls had men stationed inside the jail in the event of a storming—was well aware that somebody would be killed or injured if the sheriff's commands were not obeyed, and no one wanted to be the first to rush the Mayor and sheriff and likely be the first to receive the benefits of Nicholls's bullets or Henneman's cannon ball. The result was there was no lynching. The mob was cowed by two courageous men determined that the law should take its course. In due time the prisoner was tried, convicted of murder, and hanged.

Other such cases could be cited where South Carolina sheriffs bravely defended the honor and dignity of the State, and prevented lynchings.

Lynchings—1923
Discussion.

White Press, (South Carolina).

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COLUMBIA S. C. State
MAY 1 - 1923

COLUMBIA S. C. State
OCT 3 - 1923

Where the Waves Meet.

The town of Columbia, Missouri, scene of the latest lynching of a negro for the "usual crime," is on the border north of the Missouri river. Lynchings of negroes in the Northern states or along the line, where the waves of white and black meet often are the deeds of much larger mobs than are those in the far southern Southern states. When a negro is done to death in Coatesville, Penna., Wilmington, Delaware, Duluth, Minnesota, or when there is a race riot in Tulsa, Oklahoma, Omaha, Nebraska, East St. Louis, Illinois, Springfield, Ohio, or Springfield, Missouri, the number of white people involved is nearly always many times as large as when a "race trouble" breaks out in a Southern state. The Atlanta riots nearly 20 years ago were exceptional.

The proponents of the Dyer bill have truly said that lynching is not a sectional question.

That crime for which the negro, Scott, suffered and the lynching of him should have occurred in the beautiful little city of Columbia, with its population of 12,000 and its 8,000 college students besides, is a sorrowful event. It is one the last communities that seemingly would be afflicted with these disgracefully tragic occurrences. One can readily accept the statement that the people of the town are not primarily responsible for lynching. They would have left the punishment of the infamous crime to the jury and the court.

Gaffney Ledger
JUL 19 1923 S.C.

SOUTH CAROLINA HAS HAD NO LYNCHING FOR 19 MONTHS

Columbia, July 18.—South Carolina has not had a lynching in 19 months, according to Edward A. McDowell, secretary to Governor McLeod. The sheriffs of the State, according to the secretary, have been exceptionally alert to prevent illegal executions and as a result the State has probably the best record of any Southern State in this respect during the last two years.

Not to Disparage Lynchers.

The report from Atlanta that a negro had confessed on his deathbed to having connected another negro with the crime for which Leo Frank was convicted and afterwards lynched by a mob, recalls one of those tragic episodes in the life of the state of Georgia that is most painful.

Was an innocent man convicted? Evidently in doubt, the governor of the state commuted the sentence of death to imprisonment for life. Then the mob came upon the scene and ruled in place of the law.

We are now told that in his confession a decade ago the negro Freeman related incidents in which Conley figured and which prompted him to inform the authorities of his belief that Conley had killed the Phagan girl. No official record of the confession is on file at the capital. The confession copied by the penitentiary physicians was turned over to state officers at the time and returned to the doctor when the officials decided it was false. The physician, according to the story, did not keep his copy.

In other words, the general disposition of officials and all connected with the matter was to "forget it." No man seems so safe, after the lynching of the "wrong man," as he who is guilty. The victim is assumed to be "avenged" when a life has been taken, and should it develop that the guilty man is still alive and at liberty, it would be a reflection on the mob's judgment. So why attempt to stir up any thing? Why investigate confessions when their purport might be to implicate the guilty after the infallible lynchers had already settled the matter by hanging—or burning, as the case may be—their suspect!

That is the attitude of the lyncher and his sympathizers, and it has frequently happened that "officers of the law" have been among his well-wishers. No, the trial of the real criminal, discovered after the lynching of the innocent man, seems fated to be regarded as a very cold trail. There is no hot pursuit. South Carolina, in her darker days, had such experiences. In Georgia officials seem to have lost the evidence as well as their memories.

Union S.C. Times
JUN 19 1923

Great Church Groups Condemn Mob Rule

Southern Baptist Convention and Methodist Mission Board Voice Growing Sentiment.

Atlanta, Ga., June 19.—Strong statements adopted last month by hte Southern Baptist Convention and by the Southern Methodist Board of Missions are pointed out by the Commission on Interracial Cooperation as further indication of the growing determination of the South to eradicate lynching and mob violence. These bodies represent the two greatest denominations in the South, with an aggregate membership of about six millions. The Baptists' in annual convention in Kansas City, adpoted the following:

"This Convention has repeatedly gone on record as unalterably opposed to all sorts of mob violence and mob rule. Perhaps the most vicious and the most dangerous form of lawlessness in our present day is found in the activity and violence of mobs. We both pity and condemn Bolshevism in Russia, and rightly so, while we have occurrences in our own fair land which would chill our blood with horror if they happened in Russia or in any other land, however benighted or wanting in the essentials of orderly government. Mob violence defies all law, despises every principle and function of government, and tramples into the dust every human right. Mob violence in the South, in its beginning, most often occurred against individuals of the negro race for attacks upon the sanctity of womanhood. Like all cancerous evis it has spread. It is now practiced for other offenses, against the white race as well as the negro race. But if the evil had remained or should be confined to the realm in which it began it is not to be tolerated by Christians or by other intelligent patriotic citizens.

"In the recent months mob violence has become more active and menacing perhaps more than at any time previous, certainly for years. As if to make their crime all the more cowardly and diabolica in many cases the mobs have conceaed their identity and increased the difiiculty of apprehending and punishing their members by wearing masks. It goes without saying that no true, intelligent, patriotic American or will give support or approval to mob violence, whether the mob be masked or unmasked, much less can our Baptist people and preachers think of so donig. We cannot but hope that all our pastors and churches will studiously refrain from giving approval or support to procedure than can possibly encourage disorder in any form."

The resolution of the Methodist Mission Board came up in connection with a recent lynching and was as follows:

"Resolved: That a message of commendation and approval be sent Circuit Judge Walker for his fearless and righteous exposition of the law in his charge to the grand jury at Fayette, Missouri, at the time of investigation of a recent act of mob violence committed at Columbia, Missouri, and that

"We hereby register our sorrow over the crime of brutal murder by mobs so fequently occurring throughout our beloved land, not only because of the unrighteousness of such deeds and the defiiance of the law, but also because of the reflection upon our Christianity in the eyes of pagan people."

York S.C. Enquirer

Scraps and Facts.

JUL 31 1923

—A negro named Willie Minnefield was burned at the stake in a swamp near Yazoo City, Miss., last Sunday morning, because of an alleged murderous assault on Mrs. Russell, wife of a storekeeper at Myrleville, twenty miles away the night before. Another negro who was with Minnefield, said he remained outside while Minnefield went in to make the attack. Mrs. Russell was found lying unconscious in a trunk when her husband returned home from the store. It was thought that she had gone to the trunk for clothes with which to stop the blood from wounds in her head and face. It was doubtful as to whether she could recover. Officials have been unable to determine the motive for the attack. Minnefield's companion got away after telling his story and at last accounts search was being made for him.

Spartanburg S.C. Journal
JUL 12 1923

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THE LAW AND THE MOB.

Edward O. Dean, who belongs to Spartanburg, who has seen much of the world at its best and its worst, and who has given a good account of himself wherever he has been tried, who is distinguished for his loyalty to all good causes and for his personal courage, has written an admirable article for the New York Evening Post under this compelling title: "The Cowardice of Lynching Mobs—A Determined Sheriff Can Halt Any Crowd." It will be read with interest by all of Mr. Dean's homefolks, by the general public as well, and, it is to be hoped, by all officers of the law entrusted with the keeping of the public peace and the supremacy of Law. Mr. Dean writes as follows:

"There are two ways to stop lynchings. One method is for the officers of the law having a prisoner in charge to fight the mob; the other involves a moral uplift movement, seeking abolition of race prejudice and education of the people to respect orderly processes of government.

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"'Damned if I don't give that fellow a drink of water if I get plugged myself in the attempt,' exclaimed Nicholls, as he leaped over the breastworks and hurried to the wounded soldier's side, unhooking his canteen as he ran. A hundred and one Union riflemen cracked away at him in a vain effort to bring him down, not knowing his mission of mercy. Their firing ceased and a cheer arose from the Union breastworks as the man in gray bent over the mortally wounded man in blue and held the water-filled canteen to his lips. Nicholls ran back unscathed to his own lines.

"This was the calibre of man who had a prisoner under his protection in Spartanburg some twenty years after the incident of the battlefield and a mob was forming to 'pull off' a lynching. The streets of the little city were swarming with an excited multitude. Country folk had come in from miles around. A narrow street led from the public square to the jail and down this street the mob surged towards the prison.

"The German-born Mayor of the town, a jeweller named Henneman, and Sheriff Nicholls had stationed themselves before an old-fashioned smooth-bore cannon, relic of the War Between the States, that had been rolled out a short time previously in front of the jail yard gate. Henneman rammed home a charge as the mob drew near, while Nicholls with drawn revolver ordered the crowd to halt. He told them very plainly that there would be no lynching without some previous casualties. He was widely known as a sure shot. Henneman stood in readiness to touch off the old muzzle-loader.

"The mob, about five hundred or a thousand to two—although Nicholls had men stationed inside the jail in the event of a storming—was well aware that somebody would get killed or injured if the sheriff's commands were not obeyed, and no one wanted to be the first to rush the Mayor and sheriff and likely be the first to receive the benefits of Nicholls's bullets or Henneman's cannon ball. The result was there was no lynching. The mob was cowed by two courageous men determined that the law should take its course. In due time the prisoner was tried, convicted of murder, and hanged.

"Some years later Sheriff John Vernon, of the same county, with a few deputies and policemen, drove off a mob after a few shots had been fired into a crowd that sought to batter down the jail yard gate.

"We know of no instance where mobs have overcome the determined resistance of the officers of the law. Lynching mobs prefer to make reasonably sure of their own safety from harm. When it is a case of walking into the jaws of death to get their man they immediately lose interest in their enterprise."

There was still another case when still another worthy Sheriff of Spartanburg County, Mr. J. W. White, until lately the chief peace officer of this County, withstood the Mob, intent upon putting to death a prisoner under protection of the Law, and by his faithful conduct under the severest test magnified the Law by dispersing the Mob.

Many cases could be cited, doubtless, when other men holding like office in this State dared to do their duty at the peril of their lives. There was the case of Sheriff Hood, of Fairfield County, who died in his tracks that the Law might be justified and established before all men. Sheriff Nicholls and Mayor Henneman and Sheriff Vernon and Sheriff White did not think it necessary or becoming that they wear masks in the discharge of their duty. Their names will be held in lasting honor and affection by the law-abiding people of this Town and County. The leaders of the Mobs and their lieutenants have been forgotten.

Anderson S. C.
Tribune
JUL 28 1923

Why Lynching Has Slumped

Judge "Lynch" and the "Jim Crow Car," as responsible for the astounding exodus of negroes from the South, are creating hot differences of opinion in the Northren and Southern press. "A live negro is much more efficient as a cotton-picker than one who has been burned at the stake or riddled with bullets," expresses the original idea in the words of one paper from south of the Mason-Dixon Line. This is the "simple explanation" of the Baltimore Evening Sun, which deems it "reasonable to link the lessening popularity of lynching parties with the exodus of negro from the South." The remarkable drop in the number of this year's lynchings has occasioned this and a flood of other comment from the press.

Fifteen lynchings for the first six months of 1923 against thirty last year, and thirty-six for 1921, during the same period, are the figures given out to the press by Tuskegee Institute. Still lower figures appear in the report of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, due, doubtless, to some difference of definition as to just what constitutes a lynching. From the latter report, at any rate, we are told that deaths of negroes in race riots, etc., have been excluded, leaving only cases where negroes have been taken by a mob or a band of men and shot, hanged or burned for some alleged specific cause. The National Association's figures are as follows:

1923 (first six months)	11 lynchings
1922 (first six months)	33 lynchings

The distribution by States, for this period, according to the same report, is:

	1923	1922
Florida	3	1
Georgia	2	4 (1 burned)
Texas	1 (burned)	12 (5 burned)
Mississippi	1	7
Arkansas	1	2
Alabama	1	2 (1 burned)
Louisiana	1	1
Missouri	1	0
Oklahoma	0	2
South Carolina	0	2
Totals	11	33

The total for 1922 includes four white men, and that for 1923 includes one white man. It is proper to add that in the 1922 column are included two cases in Oklahoma and two in Alabama (including the burned man), where the only evidence of a lynching stated is that the dead body was found in a condition pointing strongly toward it.

The alleged causes of the 1923 lynchings, excluding the case of the white man who was hanged in a railroad strike, may be grouped from the National Association's report as follows:

Assaulting a white girl	1
Associating with white women	1
Aiding escape of man charged with assault	1
Reckless driving and injuring a Mexican pedestrian	1
Murdering a white man	4
Cattle stealing	1
Accusing white men of robbery	1

From this it appears that altogether four of the ten lynchings involved crimes of some sort of violence against white women. This explains the conclusion of the Norfolk Virginian-Pilot from similar totals in the Tuskegee report, "with a fair allowance for the natural bias of the colored statistician," that "offenses against women have ceased to be the prime provocation to lynching."

The main impression created by the report among Southern papers, such as the Columbia Record, Birmingham Age-Herald, Charlotte Observer, Louisville Courier-Journal, Atlanta Constitution, seems to be one of gratification coupled with a sincere hope that the slump in lynchings is permanent. Northern papers point out a number of cases where mobs intent on lynching have been stopped by resolute officers or awakened public sentiment. For example, the Ohio State Journal tells us of a notable instance at Savannah, where a plucky sheriff, backed by law-abiding citizens, stopt a mob's first attack so thoroughly that no efforts were made. This was done, it appears, by turning a hose on them, and without firing a shot. The essential point in the story, as pointed out by the Milwaukee Living Church, is that the sheriff, firemen, militia and Governor all did their duty, thus vindicating "the ability of an Anglo-Saxon community to govern itself." Such instances lead Northern papers like the Indianapolis News, deploring the "tendency to think of the South as a unit in its approval of lynching," to give full credit to "the continued struggle of Southern organizations and newspapers to have right prevail."—Literary Digest.

Lynchings — 1923
Discussion

White Press, (Tennessee)

1292

Eradication of Lynching Seen.

That the lynching evil is steadily being reduced both as to numbers and area and that its eradication is only a matter of years is the substance of a statement given out by the Interracial Coöperation as the result of a careful study of the lynching record for the past forty years. During that period, the statement points out, lynchings have occurred in forty-four States, in as many as thirty-three in a single year (1892), and in an average of twenty-one States a year, whereas in 1921 only thirteen States had lynchings and in 1922 only ten. The number of victims also has steadily decreased, with slight variations, from the high mark of 255 in 1892 to 57 last year, the latter figure being only about half the annual average for the forty-year period, which was 109. In addition, it is pointed out that there has been a notable decrease in the lynching habit in the States where it still persists. Last year's record represents a decrease of 27 per cent from the forty-year annual average of 79 for the same ten States. The figures for certain States where special efforts have been made to curb lynching are cited as particularly encouraging in their assurance that the habit can be overcome when public sentiment and law unite against it. For example, Alabama, with a yearly average of eight lynchings for the forty years, has cut the number to two. Tennessee, with an average of six, had but two last year and a total of only five in the last four years. Oklahoma and South Carolina, each with an average of four, had but one each in 1922. Louisiana, with an average of nine, has cut the record to three. North Carolina, Virginia, Missouri, and Kentucky, each averaging from two to five victims per year for forty years past, had not a single one in 1922.

Georgia Sets Good Example.

When there have been so many occasions for noting lynchings in Georgia it is very gratifying to have the opportunity of calling attention to the fine example set by Georgia officials to those of other states. There was a time when Georgia had rather a bad preeminence in the matter of lynching, but the action of the sheriff at Savannah, Georgia, in defending a prisoner charged with the crime for which some think lynching is the only penalty gives promise of the beginning of a better day. Sheriff Merrit W. Dixon tried to disperse the mob by peaceful methods, failing in which he asked the fire department to turn water on the crowd. When this failed to "dampen their ardor" the state troops on guard showed the members of the mob that they were there for business. Governor Hardwick is giving the county authorities the fullest support and already a number of members of the mob are under arrest, with the prospect that many others will be taken into custody. If the example set in this case were generally followed it would not be long before lynching became a thing of the past.

Lynchings - 1923
Discussions

White Press (Tennessee)

1293

Mob Law Not Sectional Evil.

Commercial Appeal

Those of other sections of the nation who are accustomed to point an accusing finger at the south whenever the matter of lynchings and mob law comes up, would do well to ponder the statistics on the subject furnished by the Federal Council of Churches. These figures show that there are only four states in the Union where lynchings have not occurred, and of this small number at least two have seen manifestations of mob rule. Massachusetts and Rhode Island are two of the excepted commonwealths, but Massachusetts saw mob rule at the time of the police strike in Boston and Rhode Island has had a taste of the same sort of lawlessness in industrial disturbances. So that as a matter of fact mob law is a national rather than a sectional evil.

The proponents and supporters of anti-lynching bills aimed as a rebuke to one section of the country, with the purpose of securing political advantage should do well to reflect upon these figures. 2-8-23

No matter from what state such persons may come they should not forget that it is their duty to put their own houses in order before they set out to do housekeeping for the other states. Possibly they will be more inclined to view the matter of preserving order and preventing lawlessness as a state duty when they realize that their own section would run the risk of national humiliation through the operation of a national anti-lynching law.

Why Not an Organization of Fraternal Good Will?

The Commercial Appeal 2-20-23

Mob lawlessness and mob violence have become so frequent and far reaching in character that it might be unfair to blame any particular element directly for all that has occurred and is occurring. And yet thinking people will not fail to trace the influence upon the situation of a certain masked and hooded body that secretly preaches class hatreds and proscribes certain groups of the people because of their race and religious beliefs. No southerner can forget the history of the original Ku Klux Klan; how it was organized by the best and highest minded men of the south; how it saved this section from the evil of negro domination, or how its organizers, after its work was done, disbanded the organization and turned to fighting a vicious crowd that sought to capitalize its name, its principles and even its regalia for individual and criminal ends.

It ought to be apparent that, if the purpose of a body of the best citizens to save their section of the country could be prostituted to the ends of criminality by a vicious crowd, the aims of an organization founded upon hatred must lend themselves most fittingly to purposes of individual vengeance and lawlessness. These midnight floggers may have no direct connection whatever with the present day "invisible empire," but even so they are apt apostles of the gospel of individual and class hatred.

We may think that our form of government is too secure to be threatened by deeds of these lawless mobs but we should not sit supinely quiescent in such belief. The truth is that if loyal, law abiding citizens find that local or state governments can not protect them from the violence of individual vengeance it will be necessary for them in self defense to protect themselves by methods of violence. The country would then be in the anarchic state of rule by the power and violence of antagonistic groups. To preach any sort of hatreds right now is just as sane as it would be to toss a keg of powder on a blazing fire.

What the country most needs in the present situation is some organization of the best representatives of the many races and many creeds whose purpose would be to both preach and practice fraternal good will and united support of the principles and institutions of the republic. And what the country least needs and can least afford is a body of any race or creed that teaches hatred of any other race or creed. It is just as true now as it was at the birth of the nation that: "United we stand and divided we fall."

Drifting Towards Internal Strife and Chaos.

The Commercial Appeal 2-8-23

Simultaneously with the formation of a certain secret order several years ago based on racial and religious hatreds the rule of the mob became a common occurrence in this country. Groups in various parts of the country set out to judge and condemn men and women and to administer to the victims various kinds of punishment. Men disappeared after being mistreated by agents of this order and their dead bodies were later found, but the heads of the order denied any guilt of their members or even that murder had been committed. These officals have continued to insist upon the innocence of their organization in the face of continued and increasing numbers of cases where the courts and lawfully constituted authorities were set aside by those administering private vengeance.

But only the other day in a neighboring state self admitted members of that organization were caught red handed and confessed to the mistreatment of an aged man whose conduct did not suit them. They were but innocent dupes in the hands of the officials of the organization. The formation of a body of organized hate has resulted in the formation of other opposing and hostile bodies, and the natural, if unfortunate, result happened Saturday night near Pittsburgh. There Klan and anti-Klan clashed and blood was shed. It is a sad thing to contemplate—a thing even of terror when we consider what it might mean in the future. And good, loyal Americans must awaken and ask themselves very seriously—whither are we drifting?

Sensible men and women know that no race or no creed in this country is going to submit meekly to being proscribed, condemned and denied its rights as a free and equal part of the American citizenry. Nor will these races or creeds humbly take invasions of their rights or indignities to their person lying down. Therein is the danger of the whole matter. Unless this campaign of hatred is stopped the country must inevitably drift into internal strife with chaos as the inevitable goal.

What happened at Pittsburgh should be a warning to the intelligent, fair minded, far seeing members of all races and creeds. And these persons should unite to prevent any tragedy growing out of folly.

CHATTANOOGA, TENN.
FEB 22 1923

DIFFERENCES OF METHOD.

There is a noteworthy difference between the northern and the southern methods of "treatment" accorded to the negro. The south has never been over-considerate of the man of color who was guilty or believed to be guilty of crime. It is indisputable that many outrages have been committed by lynching mobs—outrages which have been condemned by the better citizenship of the south. While definitely rejecting all suggestions of social intermingling, however, the south has never made war on the entire race. Even mobs are content when they have administered punishment to or revenge upon the offending individual.

It appears to be different in northern communities, however. People there are willing to mingle indiscriminately with negroes so long as the latter do not get in their way. But they must be careful about asking for opportunities to work for their living or they may bring down upon them the revenge of their white neighbors. And if one of them perpetrates an offense, the penalty may be the banishment of all negroes alike. It is hardly to be wondered at in the circumstances that those erstwhile emigrants are now drifting back to Dixie.

Masked Lawlessness.

The case of the attempt to assault a young picture movie operator by a group of men and one of them being a policeman with his face covered with a mask ought not to be permitted to slide easily out of the court.

The law of Tennessee is severe against masked mobs or masked individuals going up and down the highways.

This is the second incident of this sort that has occurred here within a few weeks. When an officer sworn to enforce the law becomes a masked law-breaker or an attempted law-breaker he is in a strange and unnatural position. If this should become a general custom, then the courts and law officials are of no use, and the mob is the master. When the law ceases to be properly executed, by lawfully appointed officials, then there is an end to civilization.

Memphis, as other cities, is already cursed with more than its share of lawlessness. There is no room for any more.

Mob Rule and Mob Ruin.

The Commercial Appeal 8-14-23

It is more than distressing for the great majority of law abiding, forward looking people of the southland to be compelled to witness outbreaks of mob law, attended either with or without fatal results to the victims in states of the south. And it is the gravest sort of an injustice that this majority should be made to suffer in national esteem for the reckless and heedless actions of a small minority. No doubt the members of the various mobs adjudged in their own minds their victims to be guilty of some offense against the law, but in the lawless execution of their judgment they also adjudged their community and their state to be unfit to perform its duties and, therefore, unfit to continue as a governmental entity.

The harm that mobs do is not to the hapless individual who is made to suffer some form of physical torture, but to the community or state that is made to suffer much more grieviously and with smaller hope of relief. Every assertion of mob rule is an indictment of the failure of government to function properly and it becomes a club in the hands of the enemies of all government with which they can seek to destroy government. The south of course, is by no means the only offender, but we are responsible for our offenses and it is up to us to correct them. Mob rule means mob ruin; it is the substitution of lawlessness for law, and, unless it be curbed, it is the beginning of the end of organized government. Conditions here and elsewhere througout the country are such that they demand the firm hand of correction.

A few months of honest, fearless endeavor may avert years of sorrow suffering and despair.

The Logical Course of Mob Rule.

The Commercial Appeal 8-14-23

Frequency of mob outbreaks in this country has left the public conscience more or less hardened and indifferent to the menace involved. Too many pay too little heed to these recurring threats against law and organized government. They seem to be accepted by any number as a matter of course. But even these same persons are shocked when mobs threaten the lives of high placed [illegible] has been done in the case of the governor of Oklahoma. Because he dared to assert the sovereignty of law and organized government in suppressing mob lawlessness the head of the Oklahoma government is warned that his life will be the forfeit.

But we need be neither surprised nor shocked at this very logical development in mob rule. That it was inevitable is as certain as that night follows day. The mob that has been overriding the judicial branch of government will assert its power [illegible] the mob will destroy organized government. Memphis

[illegible] ing branch of government. It is as certain as death that law and lawlessness cannot exist together. Either organized government must destroy the rule of the mob or the rule of

"Hog Killing" and "Man Killing."

Commercial Appeal

"Hog killing time" used to be a season of great rejoicing in rural sections. There was no set day on the calendar to mark the transitory period during which hog was transformed into ham. Weather conditions prevailed.

Memphis Press

When a falling temperature indicated approach of the first protracted "cold snap" of the winter, the farmer used to make ready his boiling pots, scraping knives, chips for the fires and clear the smokehouse.

The women folk burnished receptacles for the meats, prepared sage for the sausage and saw to it that ingredients for the "salting-down" process were handy.

8-1-23

All the grownups around the place had visions of "souse" and "chitterlings" and "crackling bread," and the children trimmed cane joints and commandeered threads of flax in anticipation of hog bladder balloons.

It was a great day for every animated thing on the farm, excepting the hog. Only when it faced the ax and the steaming vats did the hog understand why it had been feasted so sumptuously during preceding months.

With the establishment of great packing houses, "hog killing" as a private enterprise passed away to a great extent. Perhaps some of those who now pose as farmers don't know whether the hog has its throat cut or is tickled to death with a goose feather.

But delegating to packers the task of preparing our hog meat doesn't mean that we have ceased to be killers. Unfortunately, with the decrease of hog killing there has been a rapid development in man killing.

Whether justly or unjustly, Memphis bears the stigma of leading the homicide list. Nevertheless, the daily chronicle of deaths by violence shows that we are far from having a monopoly in this respect. We do not cite this as an excuse, but rather offer it as a suggestion that other cities and states would do well to remove the blood stains from their own records before pointing an accusing finger at us.

A few days ago we read a very interesting story having to do with the survivor of a feud that had its origin in a dispute occurring more than 50 years ago. Up to date 111 of those directly or indirectly concerned have been shot to death.

This surviving feudist has removed to another state. His body bears the scars of eight bullet wounds. But to offset this, he points to nine notches on his gun, each representing his own prowess in snuffing out the life of an opponent.

This veteran of a long-drawn-out community war still keeps his shooting iron handy, and recently sent a bullet through the arm of a negro who he thought took many liberties on the shooter's premises.

It isn't improbable that he will cut other notches in his gun before he meets an adversary who is a bit quicker in pressing the trigger.

If the law-enforcing officers had taken a hand and done their full duty when this man-killing began, the lives of more than a hundred of the feud victims would have been spared.

A negro was hanged at Waco, Texas, Monday. According to his confession, he seems to have made some progress as a man killer, committing eight murders during a period of 18 months. It is probable, however, that the negro was not apprehended before his last victim was killed. As a rule, the negro hasn't the money to fight a murder case, and gets the death sentence for the first capital offense, if a mob doesn't get to him before he goes to trial.

Lest advocates of mob law misinterpret this sentence as unction for their own souls, permit us to digress just enough to call attention to the fact that mob victims, almost invariably, are of the class that seldom escapes the full penalty of the law, if guilty. Those who are lynched would have been legally executed, if guilty of the crime charged; and if innocent, they should not be put to death either by the law or by the mob.

In a neighbor state Sunday a woman killed her husband. If her story is true, and the statements of others indicate that it is, the wife should not have been forced to become executioner of her husband; he should have been handled by the law years ago.

Crazed by drink, it is alleged the man sat on his front porch, his rifle handy, avowedly waiting for his children to return, that he might kill them. They had been sent away by their mother to escape abuse by the drunken father.

The mother instinct is strong in the breast of every normal woman. There is no human love that compares with that of a mother for her child. There is no danger that a mother will not brave for her children. No one can censure a woman for killing in defense of her own flesh and blood.

This wife says her husband boasted of the many shooting and cutting scrapes in which he had participated. Neighbors say they knew him to be a "bad man."

The law should take care of all "bad men." Unless "bad men" are put out of the way, executed or confined, they are eventually killed by men who abhor the shedding of blood, but are forced to do it in self-defense. And more often than otherwise the "bad man" kills good men before he himself is killed.

It is an unpleasant task to send a man to the death chair or to the gallows. But in the interest of society it should be done when the offense justifies it. It is a gross injustice for jury or executive to shirk the responsibility of a legal execution, and by so doing, perhaps, force a peace-loving individual later to stain his hands with human blood in defense of his own life. It matters not how deserving of death a desperado may be, law-abiding citizens prefer the legally appointed executioner do the killing.

When the machinery of the law in every state of the Union is so strengthened that the murderer gets his just deserts, there will be a perceptible falling off of homicides throughout the country.

So long as the thug, the highwayman, the feudist and others of the outlaw breed who lug pistols around with them realize that, even if caught and brought to trial, there isn't one chance in a dozen of their having to pay the extreme penalty, so long is this orgy of man killing going to continue.

Within the last two years there have been brought to trial, in Shelby County criminal courts at least seven white men who should have gone to the electric chair. The trial judges, the juries and even counsel for these bloody-handed murderers know this statement to be true. The judges did their duty, in some cases the jurors had due regard for their oaths, but the fact remains that not one of them paid the penalty, and probably never will. Every one of them managed to escape through a loophole of the law.

Some day we hope to see a resumption of hog raising in this section and the establishment of sufficient abattoirs and refrigerating plants to take care of the output.

And some day we hope to see justice so strongly entrenched that every guilty wretch will receive a penalty commensurate with his crime.

When these things come to pass we shall have more prosperity and less crime.

We need more "hog killing" and less "man killing."

Lynchings—1923
Discussion.

White Press, (Texas)

1291

Women Condemn Lynching

A stirring challenge to the States to suppress the lynching evil is issued by the Women's Missionary Council of the Southern Methodist Church, in action taken recently at the council's annual meeting in Mobile.

The resolution, which in strong terms denounces lynching, declares that, since the Dyer anti-lynching bill was defeated in congress by the States rights advocates, the responsibility is now solely and emphatically upon the States to suppress mob violence. The council also pledges itself to seek to arouse the interest of the 1,000,000 or more women in the Southern Methodist church to active opposition to lynching, and to enlist the missionary societies with those other interests that are fighting the evil.

The action of the Southern Methodist women comes as proof that the best element of Southern citizenship does not encourage or condone lynching or execution of private justice in any form. It disposes of the canard that the South accepts the lynching practice as conducive to the protection of Southern womanhood.

Futhermore, the aggressive action proposed by these Southern women is indicative of an awakening to the danger of this particular form of anarchy. The home mission departments of the societies can surely render valuable service in warring on lynching, just as they have served so effectually in fighting the liquor traffic, illiteracy in the remote districts, and various forms of immorality. The societies may engage in this activity without entering the realm of politics. The moral and social element is as much involved as is the political in the war on lynching.

The women show they have a practical grasp of the problem when they call upon the State governments to act. The States stood in the way of the enactment of a Federal anti-lynching law with teeth in it. It is now up to them to accept the responsibility and step in and abolish the evil.

This is the course The Post has consistently advocated. The Post is gratified to find the women of a great religious denomination in agreement with it on this vital question. Their accession to the ranks of those fighting mob violence will impart new strength to the movement.

THANKS TO GRAND OLD GEORGIA

Paraphrasing Sherlock Holmes' ironic hyperbole on Dr. Watson, it may be said that grand old Georgia is the one unchanging thing in a changing world. It is, in truth, a steadying influence; a stabilizer, a balance-keeper.

February 24 brought such news as threatened the American public with mental cataclysm: Wellsburg (W. Va.) shocked the country when it broadcast the word that 47 members of the mob that burned the Cliftonville Mine tipple, last July, and staged a battle in which Sheriff Duvall was killed, were in State officers' custody, having been indicted or having pleaded guilty to indictments charging conspiracy and murder! After the people's long, depressing experience with Williamson County (Illinois) and the Herrin-massacre defendants, Brooke County unfolded a tale of mob-murder aftermath in another industrial "war" which engendered such a sharp mental reaction as scarcely could be borne. Forty-three mobbists have pleaded guilty; four have been found guilty and given ten years in prison; and 170 have been arrested out of 220 indicted! How could the American mind and heart stand the contrast?

But behold! grand old Georgia hastened to restore calmness and coolness. That very day, its Hinesville supplied a sedative for the Wellsburg excitement: A jury there acquitted a deputy sheriff, a police chief and three private citizens charged with lynching —"murder", the indictments read—two negroes, who probably lynched themselves. Immediately the public realized that the West Virginia business must be merely a mistake, sensational chiefly for its rarity; and that American juries, after all, might be trusted to behave true to form as a great and general rule. So it subsided.

WICHITA FALLS TEX TIMES
FEBRUARY 7, 1923

NUMBER OF LYNCHINGS DECREASING

The number of persons lynched in the United States is steadily decreasing.

The area in which lynchings have occurred is steadily growing smaller.

These are some of the encouraging signs of the times and indicate a higher respect for law and order and a growing public sentiment against such crimes.

The number of lynchings in the United States has decreased from 255 in 1892 to 57 in 1922. In 1892 lynching were reported in 33 states. In 1922 there were lynchings in only 10. In addition it is pointed out that there has been a notable decrease in the lynching habit in the states where it still persists. Last year's record represents a decrease of 27 per cent from the 40-year annual average of 79 for the same 10 states.

The majority of the lynchings in 1922 were reported from the smaller towns and communities. There has been a change of sentiment in many of the larger communities in reference to lynchings. A few years ago there was a tendency in a number of Texas cities to regard with complacency lynchings that occurred within their boundaries. There has now grown up a sentiment in these cities against lynchings that is asserting itself and this sentiment and its assertion has doubtless prevented lynchings in recent months in several Texas cities.

EL PASO TEX TIMES
JANUARY 26, 1923

Helping the Anti-Lynch Law.

Like a true southern governor of the morally shiftless type, Governor McRae of Arkansas is doing his best to get a federal anti-lynching law passed by the 68th congress.

It happened that the lynching which grew out of the labor troubles at Harrison was of a white man. But even professional lynchers do not argue that that betters their case.

Now that it is over, Governor McRae says he is sorry it happened. He does not wish he had done anything to head it off. He does not hint that he will do anything to head off the next lynching. He simply says he regrets it—in the tone in which a man says he is sorry that a dog was killed by a motor car over at the other end of town.

Moreover, a good deal as a man might say it couldn't be helped that the dog was killed, Governor McRae excuses the lynching. He says it, to be sure, in the grand manner characteristic of politicians notoriously elected to office by Ku Klux Klan appeals and indorsement. "When the sword is applied, the sword is usually used in return," philosophizes this orator.

Of course, it doesn't make any difference that the business of the governor of Arkansas is to stop the application of "the sword" in Arkansas.

Even if Governor McRae thought it made any difference, he would not say so. That would be too unklannish—and might help stave off the federal anti-lynching law!

The Churches and Lynching

Fifteen thousand Baptists in the Kansas City convention, representing the 3,000,000 members of the Baptist denomination in the South, went on record a few days ago as opposing the practice of lynching.

The action of the Baptists came just a few weeks after the Women's Missionary council, representing 1,000,000 women of the Southern Methodist church, had voted to make agitation against lynching a part of their welfare work.

No more encouraging sign of progress in the development of sentiment for the abolition of lynching is to be found than in the interest manifested in the movement by the great religious denominations. These bodies wield a dominating moral influence in their local communities. Virtually all the moral reforms have either originated or been effected by the church people.

If the religious constituency of the South will set its face sternly against mob violence, lynching will go the way of the saloon, the open brothel and the open gambling den. It was sentiment generated by the churches that finally brought about the closing of these places. The churches can duplicate their victories, by setting the machinery of their organizations in opposition to mob murder.

The churches, in their desire to engage in social service, and to lend their support to orderly government, can find no more urgent field in which to labor, than in fostering sentiment for the suppression of lynching. Mob violence is unlikely to occur in any community where the lynchers know local sentiment does not support them.

Houston, Tex. Post

JUN 3 1923

The Churches and Lynching

Fifteen thousand Baptists in the Kansas City convention, representing the 3,000,000 members of the Baptist denomination in the South, went on record a few days ago as opposing the practice of lynching.

The action of the Baptists came just a few weeks after the Women's Missionary council, representing 1,000,000 women of the Southern Methodist church, had voted to make agitation against lynching a part of their welfare work.

No more encouraging sign of progress in the development of sentiment for the abolition of lynching is to be found than in the interest manifested in the movement by the great religious denominations. These bodies wield a dominating moral influence in their local communities. Virtually all the moral reforms have either originated or been effected by the church people.

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Houston, Tex. Post

SEP 20 1923

Federal Action Again Looms

Returning from his visit to the White House, Representative Dyer of Missouri announces that he will shortly lay before the president a brief of proposed legislation to enable the Federal government to curb the crime of lynching.

Presumably, if the president assents, Mr. Dyer will reintroduce in substantially the same form his anti-lynching bill which the democrats talked to death in the last session.

The political motive behind the Missouri representative's proposal is readily apparent, and it will make a strong appeal to the republican party strategists. The rapid increase in the negro population in the North makes it incumbent on the party to make definite advances to the negro voters in the doubtful States. Negro sentiment is solidified against the lynching evil for the reason that so many negroes have been the victims of mob violence. It need not be surprising if the party in power makes another desperate effort to put over an anti-lynching bill on the eve of the national election.

But that is only one side of the movement for Federal intervention in lynching cases. What sentiment there is for Federal action has resulted chiefly from the failure of the States to act for themselves in suppressing mob violence. Opposition to the bill in the last congress was based almost entirely on the claim that such a law would invade the rights of the States. The outcome of the contest was, the States were given another chance.

It can not be said that the States have improved greatly their opportunity. Though the lynching of negroes has declined somewhat during the past year, mob violence on the whole has increased. States North and South, East and West, have been disgraced by rioting and mob attacks, until the question of the supremacy of the constituted authorities in their prerogative to administer justice is pressing for an answer in many parts of the country.

When congress reassembles and the anti-lynching bill is again introduced, even the States' rights contenders will be faced with the undeniable fact that the States have neglected lamentably, with few exceptions, to take effective action against the growing evil of mob violence. Against a condition they will be able to offer only a theory.

The president has indicated his respect for the doctrine of States' rights, it is true, but as The Post has pointed out, he has coupled with it his insistence that the States accept corresponding responsibilities. Having failed in their responsibility to suppress the mobs, there is little reason to expect the president to discourage anti-lynching legislation, when party welfare will be served by it, and when there is some ground for believing that national welfare also will be served by it.

Why Lynching Continues

Twenty-five per cent of the eighty-three veniremen examined in the trial of a man at Columbia, Mo., charged with participating in lynching, confessed that they believed lynching was justifiable in certain cases. The fact that the defendant was acquitted leads to the suspicion that the jury entertained similar views.

This is the reason that lynchers are seldom apprehended or punished. Too many people secretly or otherwise sympathize with them Their support of the principle of constitutional enforcement of law is in the abstract. Let something occur to arouse their passions, and the law is forgotten. In those communities where lynching is common, the lynchers know they have a certain amount of popular sympathy to protect them.

After all, the lynching evil can not be wiped out until the people are educated to a deeper regard for the majesty of the law. There are certain laws that would contribute to that end. The provision in the Dyer bill, which was before congress at the last session, levying a fine of $10,000 on any county in which a lynching occurred, would be an educational measure. No county would pay many such fines before the taxpayers would become educated to the fact that the law can not be tampered with at will.

But aside from legal measures to counteract lynching, there is great need for a campaign of persuasion and education among the people to be carried on by organizations which have the respect and confidence of the people. The moral leadership in every county and every State bears the responsibility of inculcating confidence in and loyalty to the orderly processes of justice.

GALVESTON, TEXAS NEWS

JUNE 23, 1923

A LYNCHING FRUSTRATED.

Governor Hardwick declared the city of Savannah, Ga., in a state of insurrection following the attempt of a mob to get possession of a negro held there in the Chatham county jail. The governor was not far wrong. Mob violence may be characterized as insurrection whenever and wherever it attempts to supersede the orderly processes of the courts.

Prompt and decisive action of local authorities prevented the mob from having its way pending the arrival of national guard troops to preserve order. Arrival of the troops put down the last flickering display of "insurrection."

The reputation of Georgia for lynchings, in many of which local peace officers have been accused of failing properly to exert themselves in the prisoner's behalf, ought to be improved by the Savannah incident. Suppression of mob violence is in most instances simply a question of a determined attitude on the part of officers intrusted with the prisoner's safety. A mob is usually intimidated by a determined show of resistance. It is deplorable when such incidents lead, as did the one in Savannah, to the shedding of blood. But it must be remembered that a lynching party, while it may assume to be an agency of speedy justice, is intent upon violating the law.

When it becomes generally recognized, however, that any attempt of a mob to take the law into its own hands will be met and treated as insurrection, such occurrences will become rare. Gradually they will disappear.

Texas has no license whatever, on its own record, to point its finger at Georgia and accuse that state of lawlessness. But a triumph of law in Georgia is indirectly a triumph in Texas, and conversely, by the force of example.

SAN ANTONIO, TEX EXPRESS

JULY 5, 1923

When, where and how often—in any lynching State—has a negro gone unhung at the sheriff's hands after trial for such an atrocious crime as that for which Bullock was lynched, Tuesday, in Schulenburg? Whether—like Bullock—he had admitted the atrocity, thus removing his last chance of escaping the gallows in the county jail, or had pleaded "not guilty," how often has Justice failed to measure such a criminal's neck?

Any leader or follower of the Fayette County mob, any sympathizer with it, would be hard put to furnish a convincing bill of particulars in answer to those questions. They are asked with full recognition of how irritatingly the law's delays have operated in too many such cases. But whether the legal execution came a few weeks or many months after the fiendish attack on the woman or the girl, it came at last; and the county thus was spared such a blot as the lynchers have smeared upon Fayette's longtime good record and—for the second time this year and the twentieth time in 18 months—upon the State's name.

Again consider this line from the Schulenburg special to San Antonio Express:

"The negro * * * was taken before the girl and positively identified, after which he admitted his crime. He was then brought back to Schulenburg, where he was hanged."

Why? In Fayette County there are citizens at least as "enlightened and patriotic" as those in any other American political subdivision—to quote a phrase from F. Lotto's history of the county, published 21 years ago. They and their forebears have borne a great part in the career of Texas, Republic and State. LaGrange strove to be chosen the Republic's capital. There, and in Fayette's other cities and villages, are plenty of decent citizens fitted to be grand jurors and trial jurors. An honest district judge sits there. Why the lynch-mob, then, to add outrage to outrage—an outrage against the National and State Constitutions, against Texas laws and against Texas' repute?

To those who know Fayette County's record it will be surprising—as it will be shameful—if the county's own judicial authorities, its own citizens, do not bring the lynchers to justice. And unless Acting Governor Davidson does something that has not been done in Texas since January, 1919, and orders such and district—quite independent of thosecall upon them to do their sworn duty in Austin—to keep the law, or a frag-Fayette County cannot afford to bear ment of it, in effecting punishment fothe stigma of mob murder [illegible] There is still a clean-cut opportunity

Lynchings—1923
Discussions,

White Press. (Virginia.)

1290

PETERSBURG VA INDEX APPEAL
JUNE 23, 1923

Negro Migration and Lynching

It is highly probable that not one decent, respectable negro has left any southern State to find work in the North in recent months because of any fear on his part that he would be lynched if he stayed in the South. A great deal is being written and printed in northern papers these days on this subject. These writers think, or profess to think, that the fear of lynching is causing much of the present migration of negroes from the South to northern cities. Southern people know this is not true. Hundreds of negroes have left Petersburg, for instance, within recent months, to find work in the North. Not one of these negroes feared being lynched if he stayed in this city. We should say that a negro's chances of being lynched in Petersburg are just about the same as the chances of a white man's being lynched in Petersburg. Petersburg negroes who have gone to Philadelphia, to New York, to Pittsburgh within recent months have gone because they could get bigger wages in those cities than they could get in Petersburg. More negroes are lynched in Texas than in any other State, except Georgia, yet, fewer negroes have left Texas for the North during the past year than have left any other State. The reasons back of the present negro migration are economic and not sociological.

LYNCHBURG, VA., News

AUG. 19 1923

THE GEORGIA LYNCHINGS.

Another source of grave reproach for Georgia! The two lynchings which occurred in that state day before yesterday, inevitably redound to her great humiliation in the eyes of the nation. The occurrences are to be especially lamented in view of recent highly encouraging data tending to show that during the past six or twelve months this order of crime was steadily decreasing both in the South and throughout the nation. Some degree of palliation will be afforded these attacks upon law and order, by various superficial thinkers, inasmuch as their victims were charged with the unmentionable crime. But we undertake to say that no fair-minded man in the South can give the matter the benefit of really serious consideration, without reaching the conclusion that it represents an utterly indefensible practice—something without even the semblance of justification or condoning circumstance, something which interprets rank infidelity to government and high-handed treason to the obligations of citizenship.

It is true that the order of felony with which the Georgia negroes were charged, is well calculated to appeal to the passionate, ungovernable rage of Southern white men; it may also be granted as true that the suspected men were guilty, and guilty beyond the peradventure of a reasonable doubt. But even so the state of Georgia stood ready to punish, the State of Georgia alone is clothed with authority to punish, and it is fair to assume that the state of Georgia would inevitably have meted out death to the guilty pair. The two men would have been tried in an environment not at all friendly to them, in a state whose public sentiment is disposed to view their offences as absolutely heinous, degrading and revolting. A white judge would have presided at the trials. A jury of white men would have rendered the verdict. There was absolutely every reason to believe that upon proof of guilt, justice swift and awful would have been inflicted. The mobs therefore which perpetrated the extreme penalty, robbed the State of Georgia of its rightful jurisdiction. Their action amounted to a capital assault upon the dignity, the sovereignty, the constitutional authority and law-imposed obligations of that state. Therefore it was an assault upon organized society; it was an outrage of the fundamentals upon which civilization rests, and so betook of an unusually high grade of felony. The pity of it is that those responsible for the deed, will not exclusively suffer the penalty. Their action, however, affixes the stigma of shame upon the escutcheon of Georgia, and provokes every narrow, bigoted South-hater in the land to interpret his spleen in words of denunciation and falsehood.

The Governor of Georgia has said that he will leave nothing undone with a view of bringing the members of the mobs to justice. Let it be hoped that here something more than a merely sterotyped and careless expression is used; that in the light of his official responsibility and in fairness to the good name of his state and his people, the executive will be able to vindicate his assurance by having the members of the mob detected, apprehended and severely punished. It is just this sort of object lesson which the forces of law and order have a right to demand, and which, if provided, will produce an altogether salutary effect in all sections of the country.

ONLY 16 LYNCHED DURING YEAR 1923

Lowest Number on Record. Florida Leads With Five. Georgia and Mississippi Have Two Each.

Tuskegee, Ala., Jan. 1.—The Tuskegee Institute Department of Records and Research announces the following report on lynchings for the year 1923:

There were 16 persons lynched in 1924. This is the smallest number lynched in any year since records of lynchings have been kept, and is seventeen less than the number 33 for the year 1923 and 41 less than the number 57 for the year 1922. Nine of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 3 from officers of the law outside of jails.

There were 45 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Two women, one white and one colored, were among those thus saved. Eight of these preventions of lynchings were in Northern States and thirty-seven in Southern States. In thirty-six of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In nine other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. In four instances during the year persons charged with being connected with lynching mobs were indicted. Of the 19 persons thus before the courts only five were convicted. These were given jail sentences.

Of the sixteen persons lynched all were negroes. Seven less than one half of those put to death, were charged with rape or attempted rape.

The offenses charged were: murder, 1; rape, 5; attempted rape, 2; killing officer of the law, 2; insulting woman, 3; attacking woman, 1; killing man in altercation, 1; wounding man, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred, and the number in each state are as follows: Florida, 5; Georgia, 2; Illinois, 1; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 2; Missouri, 1; South Carolina, 1; Tennessee, 1; Texas, 1.

BARABOO WIS NEWS
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 1925.

LYNCHINGS ON DECLINE

In the south lynchings are on the decline.

According to Major Moton, principal of Tuskegee institute, lynchings during 1924 set a new low figure being 16 for the whole country as compared with 33 in 1923. Does this mean that the south is half-awake to the enormity of this crime? If so, why doesn't it go the whole hog and get awake all over? asks the New York Herald. Sixteen lynchings, although an improvement over 33 lynchings, are still 16 lynchings too many. Furthermore, 16 lynchings, if communities shoulder their responsibilities, can be reduced to no lynchings in 1925. It is absurd to think of lynchings as something inevitable, the frenzied outbursts of human nature tortured past endurance. Some of the provocations listed in the Moton report are disgustingly trivial. Lynchings take place because communities think they are the thing to do. Such communities are located almost exclusively in the south; all the reported lynchings save one took place in southern states, and all the victims were negroes. Communities so obsessed, it is obvious, are not civilized; they are not even half civilized.

JACKSONVILLE, FLA. PROGRESS
JANUARY 9, 1925

NO LYNCHINGS IN TWO YEARS, SAYS GOVERNOR

Austin, Texas, Jan. 2.—A report from Tuskegee Institute, Tuskegee, Ala., that there had been a lynching in Texas in 1924, was refuted today by Governor Pat M. Neff.

Following an investigation which the governor said failed to disclose any lynchings in the year just closed, he wired the institute authorities asking them to name the time and the place of the reported lynching.

At the same time the governor took occasion to defend himself from what he termed unjust newspaper attacks.

"Two years ago certain newspapers blamed me for the lynchings in Texas, on the ground that I was giving more attention to prohibition enforcement than to other crimes," said the governor. "Now that there have been no lynchings in the state for the last two years, it would be only fair for them to give me credit for this record. In 1923 a negro was burned to death in an accident jail fire and some persons reported this as a lynching, but it was not a lynching."

TALLADEGA [illegible]
JANUARY 8, 1925

1924 LYNCHINGS NUMBER ONLY 16

Total is the Smallest of Any Previous Year Says The Report

TUKEGEE, Ala., Jan. 1.—Fewer lynchings occurred in 1924 than for any previous year since records have been kept, according to statement issued Wednesday by Dr. R. R. Moton, principal of Tuskegee institute. Only 16 persons were lynched during the year or 17 less than the number 33 for 1923, and 41 less than 1922 when 57 met such deaths. Records show that nine of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, six from jail and three from officers of the law outside of jail.

Dr. Moton's report says further:

"There were 45 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Two women, one white and one colored, were among those thus saved. Eight of these preventions of lynchings were in Northern [illegible] 37 in Southern states [illegible] the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented [illegible] other precautions taken. In nine other instances armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. In four instances during the year persons charged with being connected with lynching mobs were indicted. Of the 19 persons thus before the courts only five were indicted. These were given jail sentences.

"Of the 16 persons lynched all were negroes. Seven, or less than one-half of those put to death, were charged with rape or attempted rape.

The offenses charged were: Murder, 1; rape, 5; attempted rape, 2; killing officer of the law, 2; insulting woman, 3; attacking woman, 1; killing man in altercation, 1; wounding man, 1.

The states in which lynchings occured, and the number in each state were as follows: Florida, 5; Georgia, 2; Illinois, 1; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 2; Missouri, 1; South Carolina, 1; Tennessee, 1; Texas, 1."

OAKLAND, CAL., ENQUIRER
JANUARY 1, 1925

LYNCHING SHOWN ON DECREASE BY REPORT

A new low mark for lynchings was established in the United States in 1924, according to a report made public today by the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute, a school for colored students at Tuskegee, Ala.

Sixteen persons, all negroes, were lynched in 1914, 17 less than in 1923, when 33 met their death by this means, says the report. In 1922 lynchings totaled 57, nearly four times the total for 1924.

Nine of the persons lynched since records have been kept were taken from the hands of the law, six from jails and three from officers of the law outside of jails, according to the report.

OFFICERS PREVENT LYNCHING

Forty-five instances are noted in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Two women, one white and one colored, were among those thus saved. Eight of these preventions of lynchings were in northern states and 37 in southern states. [illegible] rs, the report sets forth.

Few persons were arrested for connection with lynchings and fewer still were convicted. Of the 19 brought into court in1924, only five were convicted and these were given jail sentences.

VARIOUS ACCUSATIONS

Of the 16 negroes lynched in 1924, seven were accused of rape or attempted rape, four were accused of killing, three of insulting a woman one of attacking a woman and one of wounding a man.

Five of the lynchings occurred in Florida, says the report.

Pocatello (Idaho) Tribune
JANUARY 1, 1925

JUDGE LYNCH IS LOSING CASTE

Record Shows a Decided Decrease in Past Year.

Tuskegee Institute, Ala., Jan. 1.—According to a statement issued by R. R. Moton, principal of the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute, there were 16 persons lynched in 1924. This is the smallest number lynched in any year since records of lynchings have been kept, and is 17 less than the number 33 for the year 1923 and 41 less than the number 57 for the year 1922. Nine of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, six from jails and three from officers of the law outside of jails.

There were 45 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings; two women, one white and one colored, were among those thus saved; eight of these preventions of lynchings were in northern states and 37 in southern states. In 36 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In nine other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. In four instances during the year persons charged with being connected with lynching mobs were indicted. Of the 19 persons thus before the courts only 15 were convicted. These were given jail sentences.

Of the 16 persons lynched all were Negroes; seven or less than one-half of those put to death were charged with rape or attempted rape.

The offenses charged were: Murder, 1; rape, 5; attempted rape, 2; killing officer of the law, 2; insulting woman, 3; atacking woman, 1; killing man in altercation, 1; wounding man, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred, and the number in each state are as follows: Florida, 5; Georgia, 2; Illinois, 1; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 2; Missouri, 1; South Carolina, 1; Tennessee, 1; Texas 1.

that case were a negro was confined in a jail at a Rio Grande Valley town, and that the jail burned, apparently ignited from inside.

JANUARY 8, 192[illegible]

NO LYNCHINGS RECORDS SHOW CLAIM WAS ONE

AUSTIN, Texas, Jan. 3.—Although records in the Governor's office show no report of a lynching occurring in Texas during 1924, the lynching of a negro near Schulenburg was recalled at the Adjutant General's Department and check is to be made of the records in that department to ascertain the name of the mob's victim and date of his execution. Adjt. Gen. T. D .Barton's recollection is that the lynching occurred at a time when Gov. Neff was out of the State and while Lieut. Gov. T. W. Davidson was acting Governor.

"No request was made for rangers if I remember right," said Gen. Barton. "The negro had been lynched before we had been advised of any trouble."

Before development of the report that there had been a lynching near Schulenburg, Gov. Neff announced Friday that his attention had been called to a press dispatch which stated that officials of the Tuskegee Institute at Tuskegee, Ala., had charged that one lynching occurred in Texas during 1924, and that he had sent a telegram to Tuskegee asking for the time and place and when the lynching occurred. The Governor further advised that no lynching had occurred in Texas in 1924 and that the same record prevailed in 1923.

Gov. Neff took occasion to say during the first two years of his administration he had been severely criticised by certain newspaper for not preventing lynchings in Texas, some of his critics going so far as to charge that he did not even make an effort to stop the mob, but was giving his entire attention to running down violators of the prohibition law.

"In other words," said the Governor, "they intimated that I spent all of my time trying to catch the harmless little rabbits and could not see the big bears.

"Now that Texas has not witnessed a single lynching during the second term of my administration, I think it would be nothing but fair and just that these same critics say something complimentary in the change of conditions," the Governor added.

MIDDLESBORO, KY., NEWS
JANUARY 13, 192[illegible]

Lynchings In U. S. Lowest In History

Sixteen Persons Met Death at Hands of Mob During 1924 Report Shows.

The following record of lynchings in the United States for the year 1924 was compiled by Department of Records and Research of Tuskegee Institute:

There were 16 persons lynched in 1924. This is the smallest number lynched in any year since records of lynchings have been kept, and is 17 less than the number for the year 1923 and 41 less than the number 57 for the year 1922.

9 of the persons lynched were taken by mobs from jails and 3 from officers of the law outside of jails.

There were 45 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Two women, 1 white and 1 colored, were among those thus saved. 8 of these preventions of lynchings were in Northern States and 37 in Southern States. In 36 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 9 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. In 4 instances during the year persons charged with being connected with lynching mobs were indicted. Of the 19 persons thus before the courts only 5 were convicted. These were given jail sentences.

Of the 16 person lynched all were Negroes. Seven, less than one-half of those put to death were charged with rape or attempted rape.

The offenses charged were: Murder, 1; rape, 5; attempted rape, 2; killing officer of the law, 2; insulting woman,, 3; attacking woman 1; killing man in altercation 1; wounding man, 1.

The States in which lynchings occurred and the number in each State are as follows: Florida, 2; Georgia, 2; Illinois, 1; Kentucky 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 2; Missouri, 1; South Caroline, 1; Tennessee, 1: Texas, 1.

Glasgow, Mont., Courier
FRIDAY, JAN. 9, 1925

LYNCHINGS OF 1924

Robert R. Moton, principal of the Tuskegee Institute that Booker T. Washington founded, issues his annual report as to lynchings in this country "I find," he says, "that 16 persons were lynched in 1924. This is the smallest number reached in any year since records of lynchings have been kept and is 17 less than the number, 33, for the year 1923, and 41 less than the number, 57, for the year 1922." Principal Moton also says that there were 45 instances in 1924 in which officials of the law prevented lynchings. The 16 people lynched were all negroes, he says, and the lynchings were divided by states as follows: Florida 5, Georgia 2, Illinois 1, Kentucky 1, Louisiana 1, Mississippi 2, Missouri 1, South Carolina 1, Tennessee 1, and Texas 1.

That there should have been 16 unofficial executions in this country is disgraceful, of course, but the comparative figures furnished by Principal Moton seem encouraging. Perhaps we may even expect that the time will come when there will be no recours to lynch law in this country and when all offenders will have the day in court to which even the greatest offender is entitled.

JANUARY 6, 192[illegible]

BEATING JUDGE LYNCH

Lynchings in the United States fell off by half for 1924 over the previous year, according to figures compiled by the Tuskegee Institute, a negro educational institution at Tuskegee, Ala. In 1923 the number of lynchings in the country was 33. During the year just ended there were only 16.

This within itself is cause for congratulation. No reasonable defense of the practice of lynching can be made. It is lawlessness of the most vicious sort because it frequently goes in the name of law, although the authority is usurped. Mob murder is just as reprehensible as individual murder. The number of persons committing a murder does not in any sence mitigate the offense. Very often those who join mobs and help commit murder are too cowardly to face another man openly and shoot it out with him. A man against whom some outrageous offense has been committed doesn't need any mob to help avenge his wrong if he is possessed of those qualities which we are wont to ascribe to members of our race.

But there is another phase of the statistics gathered on the crime of lynching by the Tuskegee Institute which is even more noteworthy than the decrease in the number of lynchings which occurred during the year 1924. Forty-five instances of attempted lynchings were thwarted by courageous peace officers who thought more of their duty to the law and more of their official oaths than they did of appeasing the fury of a mob. In nine of these 45 cases of thwarted mob violence a lone man with a trusty Winchester and some straight talk stopped the mob. In the other 36 cases, the report tells us, violence was prevented by removing prisoners or by placing heavy guards around the jails.

Texas contributed considerably to the improvement of the record of lynchings. Only one lynching occurred in this state and in at least one instance a Texas sheriff faced a mob and dared them to molest his prisoner. It is not surprising that he won. Most any courageous man who can both talk and shoot straight can disperse the average mob. Bad men do not run in mobs. There is more cowardice than courage in mobs. Cowardice takes refuge in the imagined strength of numbers. Courage needs no such sustenance. It is self-sufficient.

There are two things that will stop lynching. One is swift and certain punishment for crime through the orderly processes of the courts. The other is a peace officer with some backbone and a good gun or two in his hands. The people may have both for the asking.

Power Lynching

January 9, 1[illegible]

Editor of Louisville Post:

The record of lynching for 1924 as tabulated by the Department of Records and Research of Tuskegee Institute and sent out by Dr. R. R. Moton, principal, is most significant and encouraging. Sixteen lynchings are recorded; the smallest number in any year since records of lynchings have been kept and is seventeen less than the number thirty-three for the year 1923 and forty-one less than the number fifty-seven for the year 1922. This gradual decrease in the number of lynchings is most encouraging. Another encouraging fact about the record is that there were forty-five instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings; two women, one white and one colored, were among those thus saved. Of the sixteen persons lynched, all of whom were negroes, seven or less than one-half were charged with rape or attempted rape. The offenses charged were murder 1; rape 5; attempted rape 2; killing an officer of the law 2; insulting woman 3; attacking woman 1; killing man in altercation 1; wounding man 1. The States in which lynching occurred and the number in each State are as follows: Florida 5; Georgia 2; Illinois 1; Kentucky 1; Louisiana 1; Mississippi 2; Missouri 1; South Carolina 1; Tennessee 1; Texas 1.

Every law abiding citizen of Kentucky must feel humiliated that our State after four years of freedom from this crime was again last year numbered among the guilty States. One of the hopeful aspects of the situation in Kentucky is that Governor Fields has already removed from office the peace officer responsible for the prisoner lynched and efforts are being made to discover and bring to justice members of the mob.

In the opinion of Dr. R. R. Moton, principal of Tuskegee and a member of the Commission on Inter-racial Co-operation, the principal factor in the reduction of lynching in recent years has been the work of this commission, enlisting as it has the co-operation of all the denominations of the South, women's missionary societies and federated clubs and co-operating everywhere with officers of the law. It has been hoped by the State Inter-racial Commission that Kentucky, a border State and in many respects the most liberal in the South along many lines, would set the pace for the entire South in the matter of right race relations, including the crime of lynching and the administration of justice and fair play where members of both races are concerned.

It is scarcely fair to hold the entire State responsible for the crime of lynching, as it is manifestly unfair to hold the entire negro race responsible for its criminal element. Unfortunately, it is the criminal elements in both races, the bootleggers, gamblers and other law-breakers white and colored, who are responsible for most of the crimes committed and for practically all of the inter-racial disturbances. These two elements in our State form the principal points of contact between the races, while the better classes of white and colored people remain too far apart and out of sympathy and touch with each other. It is, therefore, of supreme importance that the law-

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Mob Murder In America

The Challenge Which Lynching Brings to the Churches



"MOB violence is becoming a crowd habit. When life and property are ruthlessly taken, when men and women are lynched with no protection from officers or courts, law and order are trampled under foot. We call upon the pulpit, the press and all good people to create a public sentiment that will support necessary legislation for the enforcement of existing laws, that life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness may be equally assured to all classes."

—*Statement of Federal Council of Churches, September* 4, 1919.



Federal Council of the Churches of Christ in America

March, 1923

"We unhesitatingly declare lynching to be a crime against the honor of our nation. . . . We, therefore, recommend that in the pulpit, in the religious press and denominational literature, and in every other possible way, the Christian forces of the South unhesitatingly and uncompromisingly condemn and oppose all mob violence, and that the voice of our united Christian effort be steadfastly raised in the defense of the sacredness of life and of law and order."—*Southern Church Leaders' Conference, Blue Ridge, N. C., August,* 1920.

"We especially urge that everything possible be done to prevent lynchings. . . . This crime of crimes, which is not only a complete subversion of law, but a stroke at the very life of law itself, has discredited our nation in the eyes of other civilized nations and brought undying obloquy upon many of the states of the Union."—*Quadrennial Address, Bishops of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, Hot Springs, Ark., May,* 1922.

"We are convinced that if there is any one crime more dangerous than another, it is 'that crime which strikes at the root of and undermines constituted authority, breaks all laws and restraints of civilization, substitutes mob violence and masked irresponsibility for established justice,' and deprives society of a sense of protection against barbarism.

"Therefore, we believe that 'no falser appeal can be made to southern manhood than that mob violence is necessary for the protection of womanhood,' or that the brutal practice of lynching and burning of human beings is an expression of chivalry. We believe that these methods are 'no protection to anything or anybody, but that they jeopardize every right and every security that we possess.'"—*Action of Women Members, Georgia State Committee on Race Cooperation.*

The Atrocious Character of the Evil

IT hardly seems credible that America, with its great Christian churches and its missionary enterprises, its homes, schools and courts, permitted between 1885 and 1922, 4,154 persons to be lynched by mobs. Of the total number lynched during this period, 1,034 were white and 3,120—i.e., 3 out of 4—were Negro victims. Doubtless many more of whom no record was made were similarly murdered. In 1919 there were 83 persons lynched; in 1920 there were 61; in 1921, 64, and in 1922 there were at least 57 lynched.

Some of those lynched by mobs were charged with crime; many of them were charged with misdemeanors only; some only with words or acts which are nowhere at any time punishable by law. All were slain without trial where they might have faced their accusers, had witnesses and had the evidence considered by a lawful judge or jury. The frenzied mob was judge, jury, and executioner.

In many cases persons not sought by the mobs have been lynched by mistake, so wild and savage has been the procedure. Some of the victims suffered indescribable torture, such as saturation of parts of the body with kerosene or gasoline so that they could be burned piecemeal, branding with hot irons, or the gouging out of eyes and ears with red-hot rods.

In some cases these atrocities have been perpetrated within sight of the churches of the community. Here is an extract from two newspaper descriptions of a Sunday morning incident near the public square of a * * * town not far from two churches:

"While bound to an iron post with logging chains, the Negro looked on in dumb wonder at the stern-visaged men who heated pokers and smoothing irons until they were as fiery as the flames that licked them hot . . . Children on the outskirts romped and played, their merry voices rising above the hushed hubbub of the mob. At last the irons were hot . . ."

"It was estimated that fully 7000 persons saw Scott burned to death. It was fully half an hour after the Negro had been chained to the post before he was burned with hot pokers. His eyes, face and body were burned with irons before the fire was lighted . . . ." Then rubbish was piled high about the agonized body, squirming beneath its load. More and more wood and rubbish were fed the fire, but at three o'clock Lation Scott was not dead . . . Life finally fled at four o'clock."

A newspaper description of another burning is as follows:

"The captors proceeded to a spot about a quarter of a mile from the railroad station and prepared the death fire. The crowd followed and remained throughout the horrible proceedings. The Negro was led to a hickory tree, to which they chained him.

"After securing him to the tree a fire was laid. A short distance away another fire was kindled, and into it was put an iron bar to heat. When the bar became red hot a member of the mob jabbed it to-

ward the Negro's body. Crazed with fright, the black grabbed hold of it, and as it was pulled through his hands the atmosphere was filled with the odor of burning flesh. This was the first time the murderer gave evidence of his will being broken. Scream after scream rent the air. As the hot iron was applied to various parts of his body his yelling and cries for mercy could be heard in the town."

Here is a newspaper description of still another scene:

"Burn Negro to Death by Inches." (headline) . . . "With the Negro chained to a log, members of the mob placed a small pile of leaves around his feet. Gasoline was then poured on the leaves, and the carrying out of the death sentence was under way Inch by inch the Negro was fairly cooked to death. Every few minutes fresh leaves were tossed on the funeral pyre until the blaze had passed the Negro's waist. As the flames were eating away his abdomen, a member of the mob stepped forward and saturated the body with gasoline. It was then only a few minutes until the Negro had been reduced to ashes."

Lynchings are often definitely planned and carried out. Here are a few illustrations chosen from accounts in leading city newspapers following lynchings:

1. "Late last night the jailer was enticed away from the prison on the pretense of a call to make an arrest. As soon as he was out of hearing a mob of 200 masked men went to the jail and took the keys from his wife; and, securing the three prisoners, took them to the Tennessee River bridge and placed a strong rope around the neck of each, tied the other end of the rope to the timbers of the bridge and compelled their victims to jump."

2. (Summarized.) "Masked mob entered the jail at two a. m. and took out nine prisoners—one white man and eight Negroes. Eight were shot to death, and one, a Negro, escaped death after being wounded. The mob overpowered the town marshal and the jailer, carried the men out and tied them to fence posts by their necks and then fired five volleys into their bodies. Only one of the prisoners had been convicted—a Negro, under sentence of death for the murder of another Negro."

3. **"3,000 Will Burn Negro."** (headline) . . . "The lynching has now been fixed at five p. m. A Committee of Ellisville citizens has been appointed to make necessary arrangements for the event and the mob is pledged to act in conformity with these arrangements. . . . Three thousand strangers are in Ellisville today to witness the disposition of John Hartfield. . . . Officers are unable to control the crowds."

4. **"Avengers Set Six o'clock as Lynching Hour."** (headline). "A party of seven in two automobiles with Henry Lowry, Negro murderer, . . . stopped here at 12:20 o'clock Wednesday afternoon, . . . to Richardson's landing where they will cross and be joined by a party waiting on the Arkansas side, prepared to lynch Lowry promptly at six o'clock." (Later Associated Press dispatches gave full account of the burning as planned).

Mob murderers have had no regard for womanhood and motherhood. During the years 1889-1921 eighty-three women, seventeen of them white women, were lynched. Several of these women were about to become mothers or had nursing infants. Some of them were put to death with savage tortures, such as burning and disemboweling. Such brutality might be expected in pagan times or heathen countries, but by no means in a civilized land today.

This is not all of the story. Mob law visits its terror not only upon the accused, but when a mob starts, (and that may be at any time in many communities) the life and person of any individual Negro or member of other hated groups may be sacrificed. Thus paralyzing fear for life and safety haunts the minds of millions of our neighbors and fellow citizens. They grow prematurely old under suffering from such fear.

The Extent of the Lynching Evil

The States free from this blot are few in number. There are only four—Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Vermont—where such an atrocity has not been recorded for any community in the Commonwealth. In four others—Connecticut, Maine, New Jersey, and Utah—there has been no recorded lynching since 1889. During the past ten years, so far as records show, the territory of ten additional states—Delaware, Idaho, Indiana, Iowa, Maine, Maryland, Michigan, Nevada, Pennsylvania, South Dakota, and Wisconsin—has been free from the evil. It is true that much of the territory in the states where lynchings have occurred is free from this blot and that probably the majority of citizens in those states are opposed to the evil. The responsibility, however, rests primarily upon the states to protect the lives of all persons anywhere within their boundaries.

The record by years gives a startling picture of lawlessness. According to the figures in the Negro Year Book there was a slow decrease in the number of lynchings from the climax of 255 in 1892 and 200 in 1893 down to 63 in 1907. During 1908 and 1909 there was an increase; then a slow decrease until 1918, when an alarming tendency to increase again was manifested.

Of the 4,154 mob victims from 1885 to 1922 inclusive, the number of white victims has rapidly decreased, particularly since 1901, having been less than ten each year, except in two years, since 1903. Among the white victims were a German (during the War), Italians, Mexicans, and Jews, indicating that race prejudice was a prime factor. The number of Negro victims during the same period has fluctuated slowly downward but ranged between 50 and 100, except in 1902 when the number reported was 104, and in 1917 when the number reported was 38. There is evidence to indicate that during later years lynchings of Negroes have been concealed from the newspapers. Therefore no records of them were secured. The following diagram, based upon figures given in the Negro Year-book, 1921-22, shows graphically the trend of lynching each year from 1885 to 1922:

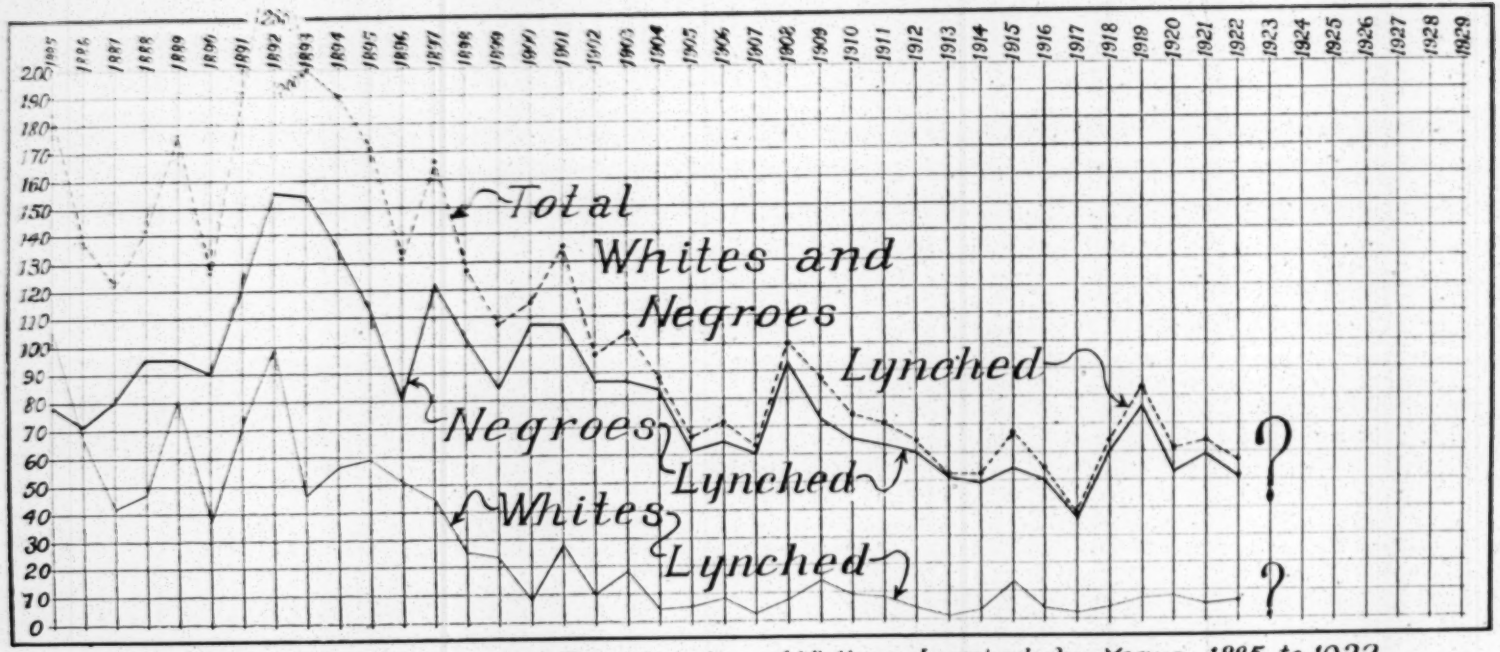


Diagram Showing White, Negro, and Total Number of Victims Lynched by Years, 1885 to 1922.

(Based upon figures in "Negro Year Book" 1921-1922 pp 355-356)

Alleged Crimes of the Victims

Rape is usually alleged as the principal cause of lynchings. Certainly such a crime could not be attributed to the 83 women victims! **As a matter of fact, nearly four-fifths of all the lynchings in thirty-seven years have been for alleged crimes other than rape or for alleged acts that are not crimes or misdemeanors under any law, common or statute.**

Out of 4,097 victims only 829—60 whites and 769 Negroes—were lynched on the charge of rape or attempted rape. **This is only 20.2 percent of the total.** And it should be remembered that these men had been **accused, not convicted,** of the crime.

In this connection it may be noted that the Census records of 1904 for prison commitments for rape per 100,000 of the total population show that Negroes had a lower rate for this crime than Italian, Mexican, Austrian, Hungarian, French, or Russian elements of the population.* If all Negroes who were accused of rape for that year and lynched without trial were added to the number committed to prison for that crime, the percentage would still probably be lower than that of all these nationalities, except the French and the Russian.**

Again, in 1911 the convictions for rape in New York City Court of General Sessions, in comparison with those for other crimes, shows Negroes 0.5 per cent; native whites 0.8 per cent; and foreign whites, 1.8 per cent. The same year, the Chicago police arrests for rape, in comparison with arrests for other crimes, showed Negroes 0.34 per cent; native whites 0.30 per cent; foreign whites, 0.35 per cent.†

More than one-third of the victims lynched since 1889 were accused of homicide or felonious assault. It should be borne in mind that in all other civilized countries persons so accused are duly tried in a court of law and when proven guilty are punished. Only in the United States are they likely to be hurried into eternity by lynchers without opportunity to face their accusers in a court of law. About one-twelfth were accused of crime against property; some were alleged to have "insulted" white persons; and more than 145 were not recorded as accused of any crime whatsoever.††

"Mob law" undermines the very foundations of government, law, and order. The future of our American system of government is involved.

Two typical illustrations of many incidents are:

1. "In the court-room, sentence had been passed on Reed and Cato, and the judge had just congratulated the people on 'their splendid regard for the law under very trying conditions.' Then the mob broke in. A brother of the murdered Hodges, a minister from Texas, rose magnificently to the occasion. With tears streaming down his face, he begged the mob to let the law take its course.

*Negro Year Book, 1921-22; p. 72, 353.
**Haynes, G. E., THE TREND OF THE RACES, p 38; Negro Year Book. p. 353.
†Negro Year Book, 1921-22; p. 72, 343.
††Thirty Years of Lynching in the United States, 1889-1918, Pamphlet published by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, pp, 36-37,

" 'We don't want religion, we want blood,' yelled a voice. . . . The leaders plunged down the court-room and into the witness chamber where the Negroes sat with their wives, Reed's wife with a young baby. The officers of the law accommodatingly indicated the right Negroes, and the mob dragged them out."

2. "A message from ..... to 'The Journal and Tribune' says that Ed Johnson, the Negro convicted of rape, in whose case the U. S. Supreme Court granted an appeal today, was lynched at eleven o'clock tonight. A determined mob battered down the jail doors, and after a show of resistance was made, took Johnson out and lynched him."

Ours is now the only civilized country where human beings are publicly burned at the stake. We are a government of law. If the law is broken down and no longer has the respect and observance of the communities in the safeguarding of life and liberty, then nothing else is safe. There is no condition of society anywhere which justifies or excuses the mob's trampling of human rights under foot. Either America must make the life and property of every citizen and resident secure, no matter how humble or black, or else no citizen is safe.

Measures to Prevent Lynchings

Growing out of past years of experience those who have dealt with this evil recommend that:

1. **States that do not have special laws against lynching should enact them.** Six states have such laws now. The Kentucky law passed in 1920 provides that the penalty for lynching shall be death or life imprisonment and that penalty for attempted lynching shall be confinement in the penitentiary for not less than two years nor more than twenty-five years. The North Carolina law permits the judge of the Court issuing the indictment to transfer trial of the case to another court without preliminary appearance of the defendant before him; this allows the accused to be taken into another county for safekeeping and to be tried there without danger of being mobbed. The Minnesota law and the Ohio law have drastic penalties for lynchers and measures to prevent lynchings. The South Carolina law gives parties injured either in person or property as a result of any riot or mob right to sue in the courts for damages against the county in which the injury takes place. In 1920 a widow of a Negro who was lynched in Laurens County was awarded a verdict of $2,000 damages by a court.

Leading newspapers have pointed out that if the states allow lynching and mob outlawry to continue, the Federal law will ultimately be invoked. A measure known as the Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill passed the U. S. House of Representatives in 1922; was introduced into the Senate; was killed by a filibuster, and aroused a Nation-wide discussion of the lynching evil.

2. **Efforts to secure court trials and convictions of participants in mobs** should be undertaken in every state or locality where they occur. To this end it is suggested that the State authorities be given power

by law, if they do not already have it, to shift judges and prosecuting attorneys and to make change of venue for trials easier.

3. In states where he does not already possess it, **the governor should be given power to remove a sheriff who is proven derelict in his duty.** In South Carolina, Kentucky, and Florida the governor has this power. In Alabama the law provides that the sheriff be tried by the State Supreme Court. With such power and the growth of public opinion to support them governors can act effectively.

4. **A mounted police force may be provided by the state.** The state police have been effective in preventing lynchings in Tennessee. A law creating such a constabulary was enacted in 1919.

5. **Public spirited citizens should back up sheriffs and prosecutors who perform their duties** against mobs and should take action against those who fail in their duties. About eight hundred citizens of one Georgia County signed up to help the sheriff protect a prisoner, if necessary. When this was known no mob formed. In 1922 high-minded citizens of the Georgia Committee on Race Relations led the efforts which resulted in twenty-two indictments, including one deputy sheriff, following lynchings in eight instances. Four of twenty-two persons indicted have already been convicted and sentenced to the penitentiary. The significance of this is shown in the fact that during 37 years preceding there has been 430 lynchings in that state and only one indictment for unlawful assemblage.

6. **Public opinion** is the great lever that moves the officers and instruments of the law. **The public press** is the greatest factor in moulding this opinion. Whatever action is taken to keep the editorial columns and news columns turned against this great evil will prevent its further spread and make for its abolition.

What the Churches Can Do

Mob murder mocks Christian ideals. The mobbing and lynching of men and women is a savage practice and will render our Christian profession hypocritical. It flouts the very foundation principle of human brotherhood for which the Christian church stands. The red record of mob murder is a heart-rending alarm to the churches and a crucial challenge to them to determine whether Christianity or savagery shall rule in our communities.

We can never hope that the Gospel will come with its true power to the colored races of Asia and Africa so long as the very land which sends the missionaries does not itself assure humane and Christian treatment for all its citizens. Indeed the lynching evil, as missionaries and travelers have often told us, has long been held up as a reproach against Christian America in such lands as India, China, and Japan, where no such record prevails.

Rabindranath Tagore, in reply to an American's question as to what he thought of America's missionary enterprise in India, pointed to a newspaper clip-

ping which reported the burning alive of two Negroes in America, and said, "So long as this goes on in your own land, do you think you have any Christianity to export?"

There are things which church members as individuals, inspired by the Christian conception of life, can and should do, which the Church in its organized capacity may not be able to do. The following are suggestions of some ways in which Christian citizens may help to abolish the lynching evil and to secure Christian relations between the races:

1. **As voters, they can help directly to secure adequate legislation against lynching.** Legislators generally act in about the way they think expresses the real wishes of their constituencies.

2. **In order to make it possible for lynchers to be prosecuted properly they may contribute to funds for legal aid of competent legal counsel to secure and present the necessary evidence.** The Commission on Interracial Cooperation, with headquarters at the Palmer Building, Atlanta, Ga., is one of the agencies in a position to receive and make effective use of such contributions.

3. **They can help to create a better public opinion by influencing local newspapers to take a fair and just attitude on racial questions.** In other ways they can join with others in creating a public opinion which will bring participants in mobs to trial.

There are other things which the churches in their organized capacity can and should do to hasten the abolition of the lynching evil. The following are a few suggestions:

1. **The supreme contribution of the church will always be in effectively holding up the Christian ideal of relations between the races.** Unless men can be persuaded that the way of mutual respect, friendly cooperation, and positive goodwill—the Christian way —will really work, we shall not make much progress in removing the stain of lynching from our civilization. The pulpits of the Churches have the ears of millions, and can, if they will, stir the conscience of their congregations against the savage practice of lynching.

2. **The churches can impress the dangers of lynching atrocities and their awful effects upon the people,** the communities, and the Nation by a distribution of literature on these evils. Such facts as this pamphlet has described are not known to the great rank and file of church members.

3. **A series of educational talks or lectures on Negro progress and the better side of race relations can be provided.** Pamphlet literature on these subjects is being prepared by the Commission on the Church and Race Relations of the Federal Council of Churches and the Commission on Interracial Cooperation, Atlanta, Ga., and can be had upon request.

4. Conferences and meetings of church leaders may be held for recommending measures to prevent lynchings and for formulating plans to secure the cooperation of all the moral forces of the community or commonwealth.

5. As a practical way of helping church members of the two races to understand and appreciate each other better, **Race Relations Sunday may be observed.** The second Sunday in February is recommended by the Federal Council of the Churches. It affords a special opportunity when consciences may be stirred against lynching and when an interchange of visitors and of speakers between the churches of the two races may be made in a way that will replace prejudice and hatred with mutual understanding, goodwill and co-operation.

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COMMISSION ON THE CHURCH AND RACE RELATIONS

105 EAST 22D STREET

NEW YORK CITY

What the Russians Think of Us

A LITTLE newspaper in one of the remoter Volga towns was speculating on the mystery of the Americans.

The town was Tsaritzen, away down toward the Caspian. At its feet flows the great river; behind it stretch the treeless steppes. Not lively in the best of times, with the famine it became a place of despair. People died in the streets. A man's shop was robbed. What of it—was he not hoarding five poods of flour? Some one was murdered. What of that—were not the starved dying by thousands? A moral fog had settled over the place. There was no work, no hope, almost no desire.

Under these conditions, the little paper explained, the Americans began their work. Kitchens appeared as if by magic. Supplies arrived at the proper places and on time. Although a person couldn't live on the pay given by the A. R. A., yet the best people were anxious to work for the organization. "With the appalling destruction we have lost our balance. There is no self-confidence, no certainty that work is useful or necessary. One seeks a quiet corner in which he may do something useful but finds only a mass of confusion which is beyond all power to put in order, and quickly becomes discouraged. But in the A. R. A. everything is in order. Each employee has his place and knows that he is responsible. One is sure of results and can breathe freely . .

Bandits had stopped interfering with the American work. They called the A. R. A. "Nurse," and left it alone. The solidity and efficiency of its work in a region where nothing else was sure had inspired in them a certain respect and fear. There were other things. At the post and telegraph offices demands of the Americans were met with astonishing promptness, whereas others had to wait two or three days for an answer. Yet they gave no bribes and made no threats. They simply stated their needs and demanded action. The existence of this phenomenon in that atmosphere of famine, crime and despair was a remarkable thing. How could it be explained? The explanation, the little paper said, was this:

"We Russians love miracles, believe in them and expect them. A. R. A. is miraculous. To interfere with it would be a sin."

In some six months' living and travel in Russia, this was the most graceful thing I read or heard said about America or Americans. It was agreeable to our vanity for its own sake, and there was an added touch of pleasure in having it said in so delightfully "Russian" a way.

The surprising thing, I presume, to those preoccupied with the fact that Americans have given something like seventy million dollars' worth of relief, is the little that Russians think of us at all. But it is scarcely surprising to anyone familiar with the country or the conditions under which its people have been living for the past six years.

Most of those to whom the American food has gone are, of course, ignorant peasants and their children, to whom America is scarcely more than a name—a mythical place, as far away as Mars, filled with sky-scrapers, whirring machinery and millionaires. One could tell of whole villages which fell on their knees and bowed their heads in the snow when the first American corn arrived; of hundreds of touching little testimonials—embroidery, things carved out of wood—given to the young Americans distributing the relief, when they were transferred to other districts or left for home. But one does not expect from such people the same sort of conscious and understanding response that would come, for example, from the citizens of some Ohio town, when on the day after the flood had ruined them, they heard that the citizens of some other town in North Dakota were shipping them a trainload of flour.

The attitude of the educated—pale students, ragged professors, and the city intelligentsia generally—is different, to be sure. And those who have seen it will not forget the light that came into the eyes of those people who, after years of existence on little but frozen potatoes and bits of black bread, when the mere washing of a table-cloth was out of the question because there was no money to buy soap, sat down in a warm room, before a table freshly-laid, to a dinner of white bread and cocoa and good soup. It was not mere food to them; it was the return of decency and self-respect and a way of living that had seemed gone forever.

But it is all but impossible for Russians to believe that any people would give away millions in this way without expecting something very concrete in return. There must be a joker somewhere. In the case of the government this suspicion took the form of more or less active hostility. Trotsky, with his usual sardonic humor, once said in a public speech that the American government had no reason not to know about conditions in Russia with its network of informers thrown over the whole country. And this point of view was characteristic all along the line. Although, because it needed the food, the government cooperated, the work was carried on nevertheless in a persistent atmosphere of suspicion.

And this is hardly to be wondered at. A class war brings with it all of any other war's prejudice and unreasonable psychology. For several years,

moreover, the Bolshevists were not only trying to bring about revolution in the rest of the world but they were actually fighting, on their own borders, the rest of the world's troops. British, French, and Polish soldiers, and the armies of all the little border states, were invading Russia. These invasions have ceased. The hope of a world revolution seems largely to have been given up. The Soviet government, secure now within its own borders, is faced with the task, not of stirring up trouble, but of governing and satisfying its citizens. It has already gone a long way in compromise with its original theories and no one can say how far it may yet be forced to retreat—not by outside physical force, but by what Trotsky called the "facts of life." The war psychology persists, nevertheless. You cannot teach a people for several years that foreigners are devils and then all at once receive them with open arms.

Public opinion about America, or anything else, in the western sense of the word, is of course out of the question. The opinion expressed in the papers is party opinion. Within the lines of the party, however, there is plenty of criticism. Lunarcharsky may complain that the schools are in worse condition than in the Tsar's time and blame Trotsky for taking too much of the state's money for the army. Djerzinsky, Commissar of Railroads, may speak bitterly of the bribery in his department and call for a "front" to drive it out. Those who favor more freedom of foreign trade may assert that the main obstacle to progress is the government's foreign trade monopoly. But all this is internal criticism. The outsiders—those who would belong to moderate Socialist or liberal parties, if such existed, nearly all the former intelligentsia, in fact,—are without a public voice.

Public comment on things American, outside of relief activities, is governed by the same party considerations, and is naturally almost always unfavorable. A Moscow comic paper last summer published on its front page a cartoon consisting of two pictures in parallel columns. One, representing a group of African cannibals seated around a fire waiting for a helmeted white man to be roasted, was labelled "In Barbarous Africa." The other, representing a Negro burning at the stake, surrounded by a mob of gleeful whites, was labelled "In Cultured America." This aspect of our civilization, which puzzles nearly all Europeans, is an easy target for satire and every once in so often comes a cartoon of this sort or an editorial on The Brute with a Veneer of Culture. The same laws make "news" in Russia as elsewhere. Of the solid accomplishment of America, the Russian newspaper readers hear little or nothing, but if an American judge makes a reactionary decision, or a legislature passes some particularly silly law, or some one is deported or imprisoned unjustly, there is probably not a paper so small or remote that it will not sooner or later have the story of it.

When it was proposed last autumn to send a commission to Russia, and the Soviet government replied that such a commission would be received provided a similar commission from Russia were received in America, the Soviet answer was characterized by some of the American papers (according to the Moscow press) as a "diplomatic slap in the face." I did not see the American papers at that time and do not know that this particular phrase was used, but it seems reasonable to assume that something of the sort was said. In any case, the Moscow Izvestia took this phrase as a text and said:

> The American press is well-known for its liking for exaggeration. America has built the tallest sky-scrapers on, under and above the earth. Therefore if America gets a reply which is not to her liking, it must be a record-breaker. It becomes necessarily a "slap in the face."
>
> The reply of the Russian government may not please the American press, but there is no reason for inventing imaginary slaps.
>
> For the past few years America has been in the fortunate rôle of giver in many European countries. Often it was enough to wear American boots to have the right to put your feet on the table.
>
> The negotiations can not be one-sided. Russia is not a hotel. This should be understood by the American public. It goes without saying that Soviet Russia strives for a practical understanding with America, but this understanding will be possible only if America will grasp the fact that it is also useful to her, and not start in with the notion of merely "making yourself at home." The reply of the Soviet government meant that and nothing more. There is no occasion for raising an uproar about a slap in the face which nobody ever gave . . .

Whether there is justification for the Soviet answer can better be told by those acquainted with the original proposal. I was in Russia at the time and never knew its details. There is no question, however, that Izvestia's comment represented the genuine feeling of many outside the government, as well as in it, toward what they assumed the proposal to be. It may be said that the Bolshevists are suffering from an "inferiority complex," that they are unreasonably touchy and not ready to meet outsiders half-way. That is true. Many of them are afflicted with an inferiority complex, the result of years of under-dog existence, and dealings with Russia will be correspondingly difficult as long as they remain on the scene. There they are, however, and a part of a government which exists and functions—the only Russian government there is. And in so far as statesmanship consists in understanding the other man's point of view, their notions must be taken into consideration whether we think them sensible or not.

ARTHUR RUHL.

DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH RFL 227

GROWING SENTIMENT AGAINST MOB ACTION

In each issue of THE JOURNAL the effort is made to report such progress as is being made for the elimination of mob action. In this issue there are several items of interest.

Strong statements adopted last month by the Southern Baptist Convention and the Southern Methodist Board of Missions are pointed out by the Commission on Inter-racial Coöperation as further indication of the growing determination of the South to eradicate lynching and mob violence. These bodies represent the two greatest denominations in the South, with an aggregate membership of about six millions. The Baptists in annual convention in Kansas City, adopted the following:

"This convention has repeatedly gone on record as unalterably opposed to all sorts of mob violence and mob rule. Perhaps the most vicious and the most dangerous form of lawlessness in our present day is found in the activity and violence of mobs. We both pity and condemn Bolshevism in Russia, and rightly so, while we have occurrences in our own fair land which would chill our blood with horror if they happened in Russia or in any other land, however, benighted or wanting in the essentials of orderly government. Mob violence defies all law, despises every principle and function of government, and tramples into the dust every human right. Mob violence in the South, in its beginning, most often occurred against individuals of the negro race for attacks upon the sanctity of womanhood. Like all cancerous evils it has spread. It is now practised for other offenses, against the white race as well as the negro race. But if the evil had remained or should be confined to the realm in which it began it is not to be tolerated by Christians or by other intelligent patriotic citizens.

"In the recent months mob violence has become more active and menacing perhaps more than at any time previous, certainly for years. As if to make their crime all the more cowardly and diabolical in many cases the mobs have concealed their identity and increased the difficulty of apprehening and punishing their members by wearing masks. It goes without saying that no true, intelligent, patriotic American can or will give support or approval to mob violence whether the mob be masked or unmasked, much less can our Baptist people and preachers think of so doing. We cannot but hope that all our pastors and churches will studiously refrain from giving approval or support to procedure that can possibly encourage disorder in any form."

The resolution of the Methodist Mission Board came up in connection with a recent lynching and was as follows:

"Resolved: That a message of commendation and approval be sent Circuit Judge Walker for his fearless and righteous exposition of the law in his charge to the grand jury at Fayette, Missouri, at the time of investigation of a recent act of mob violence committed at Columbia, Missouri, and that

"We hereby register our sorrow over the crime of brutal murder by mobs so frequently occurring throughout our beloved land, not only because of the unrighteousness of such deeds and the defiance of the law, but also because of the reflection upon our Christianity in the eyes of pagan people."

COL. LAWTON ON MOB ACTION

Col. A. R. Lawton, vice-president of the Central of Georgia railroad recently made an important address at the University of Georgia, from which some excerpts are given here.

"It is not race pride or race instinct, but race prejudice augmented by want of character that brings to the negro injustice as between man and man. If I yielded to a natural reluctance to admit distasteful truths I could not conceal from you the tendency far too frequent with far too many individuals to deal unfairly in business transactions with the negro because he is helpless. It is manifested in some shop-keepers (particularly those who give credit) and with some farmers in their dealings with negro tenants. It is to an appreciable degree more difficult for a negro than for a white man to obtain justice in some of our courts, whether on the civil or the criminal side. I do not believe that our judges are subject to this criticism.

"It is not race instinct but race prejudice augmented by more reprehensible traits that brings to the negro discourteous rudeness, contemptuous insult and corporal ill treatment. The white man's claim of superiority may be readily refuted by

the manner in which he asserts it. Insulting another or wounding his feelings is always to be condemned, but never more so than when it comes from a superior to an inferior. A gentleman should be more careful of the feelings and sensitiveness of one below him than of his equal or his superior. A negro dare not insult a white man. Fear restrains him. A more commendable spirit should restrain the white man from daring to insult or maltreat the negro."

I quote with approval the following from Hon. Joseph G. Jones, an Alabama jurist:

"The white race is superior and wields the power of government. The negro has practically no part in it. The laws are made by white men. White men preside in the courts. White men sit upon the juries. The danger is not that a guilty negro will escape just punishment at the hands of the law, but that in many instances the innocent may meet with unjust punishment. The pretext that the criminal will not receive justice, if the law is allowed to take its course, is wholly wanting.

"The evils of the mob have almost boundless sweep in all the relations of life. Can any man, in the wildest flight of the brain, picture Robert E. Lee or John B. Gordon, no matter what the charge against the criminal, joining a mob to break down a jail, and taking a prisoner out to hang him Why not? Because they are types of courage and honor, and justice and veneration for law, and all these cry out against such an act. No man who forms a part of the flood of passion and cowardice which storms a jail and murders a defenseless prisoner, is ever again the same moral being. Then and there a human tiger is born. He comes to despise the sanctity of human life. He is swift to the shedding of the blood of his neighbors, and sure to give loose rein to his passion when it turns upon one who is weak and helpless. These he will always find. He is an enemy of the youth of the land; for he teaches them it is right to unbridle their worst passions and to trample down those who are set over them."

In conclusion, "We know that we are in the ascendency and that the negro's fate is largely in our hands. We know that as compared with ourselves he is helpless and that he deserves not our criticism but our sympathetic interest; not our antagonism but our help and our encouragement. I appeal to each of you for active aid in urging upon your community and your state fair and impartial consideration of this harassing problem; for study of it in the light of today and not exclusively in the light of tradition; for encouragement and participation in the work of the inter-racial commission; and for a firm determination as men and women on whom the higher duty rests that no unfair advantage shall be taken of our power, and that the negro shall always receive that justice and fair treatment which is his due, and which we cannot withhold if we wish to retain our self respect."

PREACHERS' INSTITUTES AND PROGRESS

Finally a most cheerful report is that of Mr. William Anthony of the fifth annual preachers' institute, which was recently held for four days at Bettis Academy, Trenton, S. C., of which Alfred W. Nicholson is president. It brought together an average daily attendance of nearly two hundred rural preachers, seventy-five colored teachers, and many friends of rural teachers and preachers. About one hundred and sixty preachers lived on the Bettis Academy grounds and were excellently cared for by friends living in the community. Throughout the institute there prevailed a spirit of Christian service.

Dr. James Hardy Dillard of Charlottesville, Va., president of the Jeanes and Slater boards, rector of William and Mary College, and member of the General Education Board, first carried into action, during the summer of 1919, at Bettis Academy a plan for reaching and helping rural colored preachers, who are unquestionably the most powerful leaders among their people. These leaders, however, have been and still are severely handicapped in their spiritual work on account of the general lack of training. Doctor Dillard's plan, summer after summer, has been trying to bring to the colored preachers of western South Carolina,—men eagerly seeking the truth,—some white and some colored teachers who could understand the everyday problems of the rural preachers and who would teach the truth of Christian thought and work in simple speech and with the love of God and men in their hearts.

If any one is helping on to this cond in you. I would greatly appreciate them sending them to you

F. Lynching Discussion

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Commission On Interracial Cooperation
409 Palmer Building, Atlanta, Ga.

ERADICATION OF LYNCHING SEEN

One-fourth As Many Victims Now As Thirty Years Ago.

AREA ALSO STEADILY SHRINKS

Forty Year Record Shows Hopeful Trend, Says Interracial Commission.

Atlanta, Ga. Jan.____(Special):That the lynching evil is steadily being reduced, both as to numbers and area, and that its eradication is only a matter of years, is the substance of a statement given out by the Commission on Interracial Cooperation as the result of a careful study of the lynching record for the past forty years.

During that period, the statement points out, lynchings have occurred in forty-four States, in as many as thirty-three in a single year, (1892), and in an average of twenty-one states a year, whereas in 1921 only thirteen states had lynchings and in 1922 only ten. This indicates that the habit is being gradually pushed off the map.

The number of victims also has steadily decreased, with slight variations, from the high mark of 255 in 1892 to 57 last year, the latter figure being only about half the annual average for the forty year period, which was 109. In addition, it is pointed out that there has been a notable decrease in the lynching habit in the states where it still persists. Last year's record represents a decrease of 27 per cent from the forty year annual average of 79 for the same ten states.

The figures for certain states where special efforts have been made to curb lynching are cited as particularly encouraging in their assurance that the habit can be overcome when public sentiment and law unite against it. For example, Alabama with a yearly average of eight lynchings for the forty years, has cut the number to two. Tennessee, with an average of six, had but two last year, and a total of only five in the last four years. Oklahoma and South Carolina, each with an average of four, had but one each in 1922. Louisiana, with an average of nine, has cut the record to three. North Carolina, Virginia, Missouri and Kentucky, each averaging from two to five victims per year for forty years past, had not a single one in 1922.

It was pointed out that in several states special legislation has been enacted and found very helpful in curbing lynching, among the most effective measures being a state constabulary under the control of the governor, as in Alabama and Tennessee, and provision for the removal of officers who surrender prisoners to mobs, as in Alabama, Florida, Kentucky and South Carolina. These two measures consistently applied, says the Commission, will make it possible for any state to reduce lynching to the vanishing point.

Signs of a Better Day

PLAIN SPEAKING FROM ONE OF THE SOUTH'S OWN EDITORS

[On January 1, 1923, the editor of the Southern Agriculturist, published the signed editorial which follows. Others may discuss the subject touched by Mr. Miller in halting manner and with reservations. But Editor Miller stands straight up and "talks out in the meeting." His editorial will be appreciated by all who are really interested in the South, and the nation.—Editor.]

The South Must Put an End to Lynching

And It Must Do It Speedily

As this is written various newspapers of this section are still congratulating the people of the South on the successful filibuster of Southern senators against the Dyer anti-lynching bill. I have no fault to find with the defeat of that bill. Some of its provisions were very bad, and it is doubtful if any sort of Federal anti-lynching law should be enacted just now. But simply to rejoice over the failure of one bad bill to pass is, under the circumstances, a childish performance. The causes that led to its drafting and for a time made its passage seem possible still exist. Until they cease to exist the question of such legislation will remain. Unless they cease to exist, other bills of the same general nature will be drawn and presented to Congress and, sooner or later, one of those bills will be passed. The conscience and the common sense of any country are not going to permit lynchings to go on, week after week, as they are still going on in some Southern States.

We may as well face the facts. If we of the South do not put an end to the succession of unpunished lynchings we have so long permitted, the Federal Government will step in to prevent them; and, deplorable as such extension of Federal authority and activity may be, it will be less deplorable than would be a continuance of mob violence and official inactivity in the presence of mob violence.

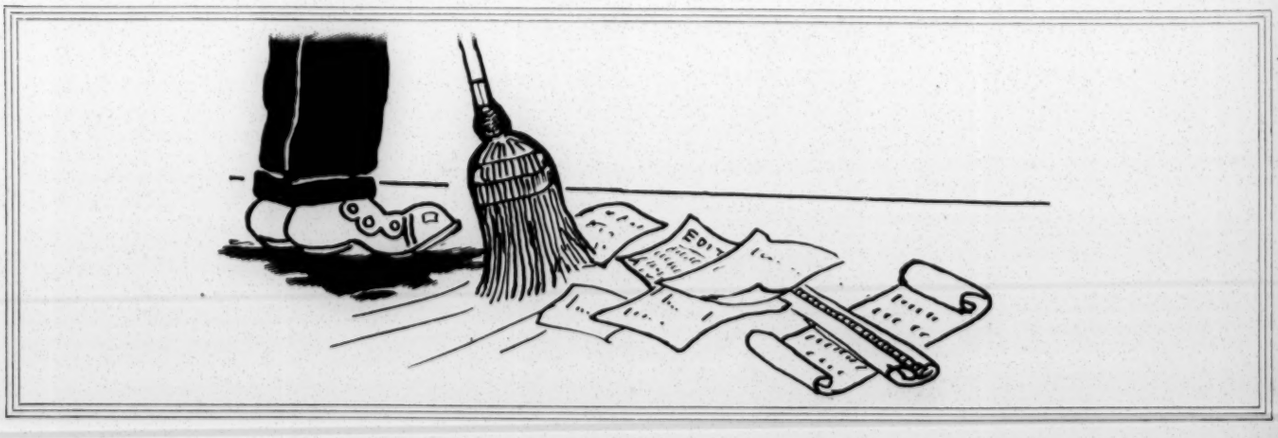
While we may all be glad that the Dyer bill has been kept from becoming law, this is no time for us of the South to be indulging in thoughts of triumph or to be decking our brows with wreaths of victory. We need, instead, to be putting on the sackcloth of contrition and sprinkling our heads with the ashes of shame. Our conduct has brought us face to face with the assumption of the National Government of the primary police power of the States. The filibuster against the Dyer bill did not remove this danger; it only averted it for a little while. There is but one way to remove it; that is for the people of the South themselves to put down lynching, to punish lynchers, to see that every person accused of crime—no matter what his color or what the crime—has a fair trial in the courts of the land.

We can do this if we will to do it. We have failed to do it because we have only half-way willed to do it. Failure will not much longer be tolerated. It should not be tolerated. There must be an end to mob murders, and if we of the South do not end them in our midst, the best thought of the South will join with the best thought of other sections in demanding that the Federal Government end them.

This, I repeat, is no time for shallow self-laudation or childish self-deception. It is a time for straight thinking, for plain speaking, for decisive action. Even now it is an open question whether, as a prominent Southern clergyman said to me, we have not already sinned away our day of grace by our failure to put down lawless mobs and to punish mob violence.

While lynching is a National crime, it is particularly a Southern crime. We of the South must stop it, and stop it speedily.

E. E. MILLER.





International News Reel photograph.

THE SCENE OF FLORIDA'S NEW YEAR RACE RIOT—THE MORNING AFTER.

The ruins of the house near Rosewood, Florida, in which twenty armed negroes fought off a band of white men searching for a negro who, it is said, had attacked a white woman.

than any railroad or industry can. It is saving that money to its citizens. If its securities are to be no longer tax free, as a proposed constitutional amendment suggests, Newark and all other cities will have to pay nearly as high as the railroads and industries every time they float a bond issue. They will pay a little less, because public securities being a first claim upon taxes are supposed to be particularly safe. But the public bodies will all have to pay more for the money every time they build a school or issue bonds for any other purpose, which simply means that the city tax rate will go higher and the individual house owner and rent payer will be soaked the harder."

"If President Harding and Secretary Mellon think so unfavorably of tax-exempt bonds, why do they go on issuing them?" asks *The Magazine of Wall Street*. The great hue and cry against tax-exempt bonds, avers the Baltimore *Manufacturers Record*, comes from "the bankers and brokers in the financial district, who say they can not float bonds in competition with tax-free securities." As for the opinion that tax-exempt securities should be eliminated in order to curb extravagance on the part of States and municipalities, "this is an insolent and unwarranted assumption of Federal superiority in political wisdom and economy," declares the St. Louis *Post-Dispatch*. In fact, says the Baltimore *Evening Sun*, the constitutional amendment is in itself a "red herring, a maneuver to distract attention from the wastefulness of the present governmental system." If the truth were known, asserts a New York financial weekly, *The American Banker*, "it would be found that many a town which enjoys excellently paved streets, sewers, and so forth, would still be awaiting these improvements if it had not been for the tax-exempt privilege."



International News Reel photograph.

THIS HAPPENED TO EIGHTEEN NEGRO HOMES.

The deliberate burning of these cabins and a church wiped out the negro quarter of Rosewood; the colored inhabitants took to the woods.

BRISK START OF THE 1923 LYNCHINGS

THE MOB SPIRIT showed itself three separate times in the first week of the new year by the lynching of negroes. In the first two instances a single person was killed, but in the third, a race riot at Rosewood, Florida, two white men, four negroes, and a negro woman were killed, and several whites and blacks wounded, and the entire negro section of the town burned. The young negro convict who was accused of having attacked a white woman, and for whom the white mob was searching, escaped. "These shocking outbreaks of atavism" reveal to the Socialist New York *Call* "how astonishingly little cultural progress has been made in some parts of the world, and they also explain the industrial backwardness and political reaction of the South." "Certainly this latest calamity in Florida is a serious reflection upon the State and its people," agrees the Utica *Press*, for, as the New York *World* remarks, "the utter breakdown of the law is admitted." Says a dispatch:

"Six houses and a negro church were burned on the night of January 4, immediately after a crowd of white men, advancing on a negro house, had been fired on from the house and two killed.

"The negroes escaped from the house after two of them had been shot to death by the whites who rained bullets on the structure until their ammunition was exhausted. A negro woman was killed as she was leaving her burning dwelling, another negro was slain about twenty miles from the scene of the trouble, and on January 6 a fifth negro was shot to death in Sumner on the graves of his mother and brother when he is said to have refused to tell his white captors the names of those in the house at Rosewood who fired on the white men."

"In the South," notes

the Providence *Journal*, "the lynchers of a black man are too seldom threatened with justice, and while the South has no monopoly on mob lawlessness, as Chicago, Herrin, and other places have revealed, there is customarily in the North a serious attempt to enforce the law."

"A foul and lasting blot has been placed on the people of Levy County, in which Rosewood is situated," agrees the Tampa *Times*, but the Nashville *Banner* comes to the defense of the Southland by saying the Rosewood race riot had the "earmarks" of a Northern outbreak, and it accounts for this by "Florida's large Northern population, permanent and seasonal." Continues *The Banner:*

"We of this section have been charged with a great many lynchings. Sorrowfully we have entered a plea of guilty to the indictment. But we have pleaded in extenuation, in confession and avoidance that while we do sometimes visit summary punishment upon a guilty person, we do not kill the innocent by wholesale. And that has always been strictly true.

"Nor is there evidence that the Florida outbreak was of the wholesale, indiscriminate kind. A similar thing might have occurred in any one of many race clashes that have occurred in the South. But the report from Rosewood that a score or so of negro houses there were burned and the occupants fired upon as they fled—that is the sort of thing that has several times occurred in Northern clashes, but not often in the South. It is the most deplorable feature of the whole deplorable affair.

"Clashes will probably continue to occur as long as the two races live together on the same soil—and that will be, apparently, forever. We may hope to make them less frequent. The best men of both races are earnestly working toward that end."

Prominent white women representing thirteen States and holding memberships in the Southern Methodist Church, met in Atlanta recently and pledged themselves to work individually and in their official capacities in a campaign on behalf of law enforcement, and for adequate State laws to suppress lynchings in particular. At the end of a three-day conference, reports Lester A. Walton in the New York *World*, these women said in a public statement:

"We believe that violence has no place where people lend their support in every possible way to the agencies constituted by the people for the apprehension, trial and punishment of offenders against society. We resent the assertion that criminality can be controlled by lawless outbreaks, and woman's honor protected by savage acts of revenge.

"We believe that every human being should be treated not as a means to another's ends, but as a person whose aspirations toward self-realization must be recognized; that we must cherish racial integrity and racial self-respect, as well as such mutual respect as will lead each to higher moral levels, to mutual trust and helpfulness. We believe that in this process certain values must be developed and maintained.

"No family and no race rises higher than its womanhood. Hence, the intelligence of women must be cultivated and the purity and dignity of womanhood must be protected by the maintenance of a single standard of morals for both races."

THE NEW OHIO RAILROAD KINGS

THE OUTSTANDING ROMANCE of present-day railroad history is the rapid rise of two young Cleveland real estate men to what a Wall Street writer calls "a stellar position among American railroad financiers." Railroad officials in New York, according to the New York *Times*, "hold that the progress of the Van Sweringens in railroad history has been the most outstanding of any group since the days of E. H. Harriman." While most railroads have in recent years been sufficiently occupied in making both ends meet, and while the Interstate Commerce Commission is having difficulty in persuading the railroads to unite in voluntary mergers like those permitted by the new law and suggested by the Commission's experts, the Van Sweringens have been building up what *The Times* calls a combination of railroad lines such as has never been "seen before in American railway organization." The Van Sweringen brothers, real estate operators, bought the Nickel Plate from the New York Central in 1916, paying $2,000,000 in cash out of a total purchase price of $8,500,000. More recently they acquired the Lake Erie and Western, the bankrupt "Clover Leaf" (Toledo, St. Louis & Western), a few connecting lines, and, to quote *The Times* again, behold "a western 'granger' road set down in the industrial East, a carrier which specializes in agricultural and animal products more than any this side of Iowa." Now to this combination is added, after months of negotiations, the Chesapeake & Ohio, one of the great coal-carriers, and the Van Sweringens will have, as the newspapers all note, a system worth more than $500,000,000, with a mileage of 4,565, running from the Atlantic seaboard at Newport News through the coal-fields to the Great Lakes, the Mississippi, and such cities as Buffalo, Cleveland, Cincinnati, Detroit, St. Louis and Chicago. And a writer for the Cleveland *Plain Dealer*, in the Van Sweringens' home town, tells of rumors that the Chesapeake & Ohio may be but the second link in building up a transcontinental system.



By courtesy of "Forbes Magazine," New York.

O. P.



M. J.

The Van Sweringen brothers, whose entrance into the field of railroad development and consolidation recalls the achievements of E. H. Harriman. The elder brother, Oris P., is the leader in the Van Sweringen enterprises, but as *Forbes* notes, "All business transactions between them and others are carried on in their joint names."

It is no merger of local importance that the Van Sweringens are effecting, says the Norfolk *Ledger-Dispatch*, at the eastern terminal of the Chesapeake & Ohio, but "one of national concern. It makes of the men who are carrying it out persons of consequence and recognized position among the builders of the present day." When for the third time in six years the name Van Sweringen was linked with the purchase of large railroad properties, Wall Street's curiosity about these young railroad Lochinvars from out of the West was evident enough. Naturally, says a writer in *Barron's Weekly*, the questions arise: "Who are the Van Sweringens? What do they know about the business of railroading? What do they propose to do with the railroad properties they have acquired?" This writer, questioning bankers, lawyers, and business associates of the two brothers, learns that

RELIGION-AND-SOCIAL-SERVICE

"JUDGE LYNCH" BECOMING UNPOPULAR

TWENTY-EIGHT LYNCHINGS a year is still too many, tho it is a matter for general rejoicing that the record for 1923 is twenty-nine less than that of 1922 when fifty-seven persons were done to death without due process of law. The most striking and the most encouraging feature about the record is that there were forty-six instances in which lynching was prevented by the constituted authorities. In previous years it was generally complained that the officers of the law were either actually cowardly, or so flagrantly remiss in their duty as to be under the suspicion that they were in connivance with the avenging mobs. The cause for the decrease is variously assigned to fear that the Dyer anti-lynching bill will be passed, to a changing attitude toward the negro, most frequent victim of "Judge Lynch," to a desire in the South to check the negro migration northward, or to a combination of these motives. More probably, says the Cleveland *Plain Dealer*, "it is due to a gradual public awakening to the horrors of mob murder, due to widening education, more active measures of self-defense by the colored people themselves and possibly to the repeated threat of the Federal Government to intervene." If this favorable report is followed by others like it, and if the tide has really set in against the practise which has so long been a blot on our civilization, observes the Manchester *Union*, "it will be, in great part, traceable to one of those revolutions of sentiment and general elevations of the moral tone for which direct-action reformers can not bring themselves to wait, but which are more powerful, and bring more lasting, good results than hastily contrived and questionably enacted legislation ever did."



THE JUDGE HAD A BAD YEAR
—Knott in the Dallas *News*.

These lynching statistics were gathered by the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute in Alabama, whose principal, Dr. R. R. Moton, writes that twenty-eight persons were lynched in 1923, as against fifty-seven during 1922. The lynchings occurred in nine States, as follows: Arkansas, 2; Florida, 8; Georgia, 4; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 8; Missouri, 1; Oklahoma, 1; Texas, 2; Virginia, 1. Thirteen of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, seven from jail, and six from officers of the law outside the jail. The report shows, further, that in forty-six instances lynching was prevented. Four women—three white and one colored—were among those thus saved. Six of these preventions were in Northern States, and forty in Southern States. In thirty-seven of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards were augmented, or other precautions were taken by the authorities. In the nine other instances armed force was used to repel the mobs. In eight instances during the year, we are told, persons charged with being connected with lynching mobs were brought to trial. Of the fifty-two persons thus brought before the courts, only two were sent to the penitentiary. Such figures, says the El Paso *Times*, tell their own story. "As a nation, we have worked during the past twelve months considerably nearer the ideal and the practise of legal justice. If we can manage but to hold this rate of decrease in the supreme crime of mob violence, lynching will cease within a decade to be the national vice and the most serious reproach to American civilization in the eyes of the world." As this Southern paper sees it,

> "One gratifying feature of the report is that, in spite of the race-problem perplexities imposed upon many Northern communities by the exodus, no lynchings occurred in a Northern State in 1923. Altho enough lynchings have occurred in the old 'free States' in the past to prove that the crime does not represent a peculiar vice of the Southern temperament, all patriotic Southerners will rejoice that the North sets a good example, particularly now that the race problems of many Northern communities have come to approximate those of the South."

"Judge Lynch's" decline in popularity is attributed by the St. Louis *Star* to the arousing of the Southern people to "the desirability of protecting negroes from violence and of extending them fair court trials." This "dormant sense of duty among the best white people" has probably been quickened by the negro exodus, and we are told that every sort of reasonable and legitimate effort to make the negroes content has been advocated by Southern papers and leaders. For instance,

> "This effort has been conspicuous in Alabama, where a series of page advertisements has appeared in some of the leading dailies. These advertisements have been directed to the end of arousing white public opinion to the expediency and justice of taking better care of the inferior race in all material and moral respects. The matter was admirably conceived, effectively written, and plainly has had a marked result.
>
> "There is no need of Federal legislation on this subject. The States only should handle such matters, and they are doing it. There are too many laws now, and not enough of willingness to execute good laws that are in existence. This is especially true in all matters connected with police powers. That function belongs to the States, and any transgression of the States' province is unwholesome and almost invariably ineffective."

The threat of Federal legislation remains, however, and the Nashville *Tennessean*, pointing out that "lynching can be stopt,"

warns that we shall be powerless to prevent Federal interference unless we measure up to the obligations which self-government imposes upon us." Northern papers appear similarly disposed to believe that the evil will effect its own cure, and the Manchester *Union*, discussing the subject again, observes that "reducing the number of lynchings by more than half is a step in the right direction, and the whole nation can fervently hope that similar improvement may be shown when the record for 1924 is compared with that for 1923." Remarking on the fact that it is still the conclusion of James Weldon Johnson, secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, New York, that Congress should pass the Dyer anti-lynching bill, which was defeated when it was last voted upon, the Hartford *Times* observes:

"Aside from the doubtful constitutionality of such a law through its invasion of States' rights, and aside from the difficulty of enforcing it without precipitating something very like a conflict between the sections of the United States, would it not be wiser to continue to trust in the educational and moral forces which both Mr. Moton and Mr. Johnson report to be at work, than to run the risk of enraging the white South while conferring no benefit upon the negro? The fact is that the negro's condition in the South, while he remains there, is to remain a matter for Southern decision. There seems small doubt of the superior wisdom of relying upon the further penetration of economic and social lessons regarding the negro than of making the gesture of passing a law which is probably unconstitutional and which could be enforced only at a risk to internal peace."

A PRESBYTERIAN BILL OF RIGHTS

THE THEOLOGICAL YOKE is loosed and broken so far as 150 Presbyterian clergymen are concerned, for they have definitely cast aside the check which the General Assembly of last year attempted to impose on them, and assert that they have the right, within proper limitations, to think and to teach as they choose concerning matters of faith. The same week marks the exoneration by an examining committee of Dr. Harry Emerson Fosdick, the Baptist preacher in the pulpit of the First Presbyterian Church, New York, who had been charged before the same Assembly with failing to conform to Presbyterian standards in his preaching. It should be remarked at the outset that tho he professes himself a "liberal," Dr. Fosdick nevertheless affirms the historic doctrines of evangelical Christianity—the personal God, the deity of Christ, the sacrificial atonement, the resurrection, the "indwelling spirit," and "the life everlasting." The two events—really one in their effect—are epochal in theological history. They will be considered at the next General Assembly, and before that a rejoinder is expected from the Fundamentalists.

To make clear what follows we must revert to the action taken by the last General Assembly, held at Indianapolis. Turning back to our issue of June 16, 1923, we find that the Assembly adopted a resolution requiring the First Church in New York to conform to the Presbyterian Confession of Faith. A chief point in the resolution is that it reaffirms the deliverance of the General Assembly of 1910, declaring it to be the essential doctrine of the Church that the Holy Spirit inspired the writers of the Bible to keep them from error; that Jesus Christ was born of the Virgin Mary; that He offered Himself as a sacrifice to atone for the sins of His followers; that He arose from the dead with the same body in which He suffered, and that He showed His divine power by working miracles. The next day sixty-six ministerial delegates protested against the action in the matter of the First Church as a condemnation without a hearing, and declared that the Assembly's resolution "seeks to impose doctrinal tests other than those solemnly agreed upon in the constitution of our Church." The bill of rights recently signed and published by 150 clergymen reaffirms their acceptance of the Westminster Confession of Faith "as containing the system of doctrine taught in the Scriptures," which is the form of their vow at ordination. It presents an historical argument to show that the Assembly more than once has accepted theological differences within the Church, so long as the ministers remain loyal to their leader and their work. It affirms that the supreme guide is not ecclesiastical authority, but "the Holy Spirit speaking in the Scripture." The document finds that there is no assertion in the Scriptures that their writers were kept "free from error," and that such an assertion is not found in the Confession of Faith, in the Apostles' Creed, in the Nicene Creed, or in any of the great Reformation confessions. Therefore, hold the signers of the recent affirmation, "the General Assembly of 1923, in asserting that 'the Holy Spirit did so inspire, guide and move the writers of Holy Scripture as to keep them from error' spoke without warrant of the Scriptures or of the Confession of Faith." In regard to Dr. Fosdick's preaching it is asserted that the Assembly acted without giving the parties concerned a hearing, and "in effect condemned a Christian minister without using the method of conference, patience and love enjoined on us by Jesus Christ." On constitutional grounds the 150 clergymen are opposed to any attempt to elevate the five doctrinal statements set forth in the Assembly's resolution, or any of them, to the position of tests for ordination or for good standing in the Presbyterian Church. To quote directly:

"Furthermore, this opinion of the General Assembly attempts to commit our church to certain theories concerning the inspiration of the Bible, and the Incarnation, the Atonement, the Resurrection, and the Continuing Life and Supernatural Power of our Lord Jesus Christ. We all hold most earnestly to these great facts and doctrines; we all believe from our hearts that the writers of the Bible were inspired of God; that Jesus Christ was God manifest in the flesh; that God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto Himself, and through Him we have our redemption; that having died for our sins He rose from the dead and is our ever-living Savior; that in His earthly ministry He wrought many mighty works, and by His vicarious death and unfailing presence He is able to save to the uttermost. Some of us regard the particular theories contained in the deliverance of the General Assembly of 1923 as satisfactory explanations of these facts and doctrines. But we are united in believing that these are not the only theories allowed by the Scriptures and our standards as explanations of these facts and doctrines of our religion, and that all who hold to these facts and doctrines, whatever theories they may employ to explain them, are worthy of all confidence and fellowship.

"We do not desire liberty to go beyond the teachings of evangelical Christianity. But we maintain that it is our constitutional right and our Christian duty within these limits to exercise liberty of thought and teaching, that we may more effectively preach the Gospel of Jesus Christ, the Savior of the World."

Dr. Fosdick and the Session of the First Church are exonerated by the special committee of the Presbytery of New York of all charges that Dr. Fosdick had preached heretical sermons from the First Church pulpit. However, there is some criticism of Dr. Fosdick for his famous sermon, "Shall the Fundamentalists Win?"—a plea for tolerance of the liberal position—which precipitated the situation. The committee reports that Dr. Fosdick's discussion of the Virgin Birth was objectionable and open to misconstruction and that the title of the sermon tended to "contention and strife." Dr. Fosdick was also counseled that, altho he is not directly under the jurisdiction of the Presbytery, he should acknowledge his obligations in it. However, the committee states that it "has no reason to doubt that Dr. Fosdick feels the force of these obligations and that he will willingly accept counsel and direction from this Presbytery, of which he is a corresponding member." The report contains a statement of faith by Dr. Fosdick, in which he declares: "If I did not regard myself as an evangelical Christian, I certainly should not be preaching in an evangelical pulpit." We quote Dr. Fosdick's statement in part:

"There are days when every man who seriously and deeply believes in the Gospel of Jesus Christ wants to be counted on that side and not on the other. It goes hard with me, therefore, to

Lynchings—1923.
Federal Council of Churches, Reports on. 1273

1273

DETROIT, MICH., NIGHT
MARCH 22 1924

Fewest Lynchings on Record in 1923

DESPITE the general impression that lawlessness in these United States has reached its apogee since the war, figures just issued reveal that in one notable respect, 1923 was an improvement. These figures show that there were fewer lynchings in the country last year than in any previous twelve month since accurate statistics on the subject were kept. And only nine states had mob murder, which is another record.

The number of such illegal killings was 28, which is really impressive when one realizes that in 1892 there were 253. This last figure is the worst recorded, while 38, for 1917, is the second best.

These and other figures are given out by a commission of the Federal Council of Churches, and are based on records kept by Professor Monroe N. Work at Tuskegee Institute and the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. Various reasons for the improved conditions are presented, among them being the following: "Christian men and women are facing the facts regarding lynching and are becoming aroused to the menace of it. The migration of Negroes has aroused leading citizens also to inquire the cause, and lynching has been given as one. Tremendous educational campaigns have been carried on by the Federal Council of Churches. the Commission on Interracial Co-operation the Women's Council, Methodist Episcopal Church, South; other groups of southern church women, by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and by other organizations.

"The threat of the passage of the Dyer anti-lynching bill by the United States congress caused citizens and officials in many states to take means to stop lynchings. A similar bill has been introduced in the present congress.

"Several states have passed stringent anti-lynching laws. In some of these laws the family of the victim is given the right to sue the county in which the crime occurs. The widow of a Negro lynched in South Carolina obtained a verdict of $2,000 under such a law. Officers of the law are becoming more active in preventing lynchings as public opinion demands it."

Numerous interesting facts are revealed by the records. For one, they show that only four states—Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island and Vermont—have never had a lynching. Four others—Connecticut, Maine, New Jersey and Utah—have had none since 1896. Ten states, among them Michigan, have not had a lynching during the past decade.

The nine states where mob murder took place in 1923 are Texas, Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, Mississippi Georgia, Florida, Virginia and Missouri.

...CA N.Y. DISPATCH
MARCH 15, 1924

Fewer Lynchings.

Lynchings in the United States during the year 1923 were reduced to 28; the lowest number in any year since accurate records have been kept. In 1922 there were 253 lynchings in 33 states.

This reduction is in large part due to the growth of public opinion, which has been crystalized and strengthened through tremendous educational campaigns which have been carried on by the Federal Council of Churches and other Christian bodies which are fighting to remove from this country the black stain of mob violence which had reached such threatening proportions.

Legislation has been effected in several states, and stringent anti-lynching laws give the family the right to sue for damages the county in which the crime occurs.

People have been made to see that the crimes for which lynching has most frequently resulted may be punished by law in a reasonable and orderly manner. And it has been observed that through the decline of the mob and the coming of the law into its own, these crimes have decreased in number. The administration of justice in the prescribed and approved legal form is a greater deterrent to crime than the visitations of the mob.

Only nine states during the past year were the scenes of lynchings, and it is to be devoutly hoped that the present year may show continued improvement.

...HICAGO ILL. POST
APRIL 9, 1924

DECREASE IN LYNCHINGS

Lynching is steadily becoming more unpopular in the United States, and the record of such extra-legal proceedings is consequently much more favorable. The number of lynchings in 1923 was twenty-eight, the lowest for any year since accurate records have been kept. The next lowest record was thirty-eight in 1917. The highest was 253, in 1892, when lynchings occurred in thirty-two states. The list for that year and the fact that eight-elevenths of all the states in the Union were included indicates the decided change in public opinion during the last generation, coupled with a marked increase in the efficiency of law enforcement agencies. The lynchings in 1923 were confined to nine states. The statistics have been issued by the Federal Council of Churches from figures compiled by Tuskegee institute.

Many reasons have been advanced for the marked decline in the cases of mob murder. Among them the church report cites the progress made by the churches and also the sentiment which developed in Congress for the Dyer anti-lynching bill. It is doubtful if either of these factors figured prominently in improving conditions as some others, altho the church's influence naturally contributed toward producing a finer type of citizenship which deplored summary and primitive methods of imposed justice. Officers of the law are becoming more active in preventing control by mobs because they are now supported by public opinion. A number of states have passed stringent anti-lynching laws, some of them providing that the family of the victim may sue the county in which the outrage occurred. The widow of a South Carolina negro recently got a verdict of $2,000 under such a law.

Economic reasons probably have been the most prominent factors leading toward improved conditions in the southern states. The tremendous exodus of negroes in the years following the war created an acute labor situation in many communities, tending to improve the status of the colored workmen. The migration also lessened the fear of possible negro domination, Mississippi now being the only state in which the negro population outnumbers the white. Three southern states—South Carolina, Alabama and Tennessee—joined the honor roll by reporting no lynchings within their borders during 1923. This group should guard the distinction which has come to it and neighboring states should emulate that example. An enlightened public sentiment and law enforcement maintained by vigilant officials should result in a still better record for succeeding years.

...HICAGO ILL. JOURNAL
MARCH 15 1924

Lynching

Thirty-nine of the forty-eight states were free from lynchings during 1923. In nine states mob murders occurred, with a total of twenty-eight victims, of whom twenty-six were negroes. One of those nine states, Missouri, is classed geographically as a "west north central" commonwealth; but in settlement and traditions is mainly southern. The affiliations of the other lynching states speak for themselves—Virginia, Georgia, Florida, Mississippi, Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma and Texas.

The first collection of lynching figures was made by the Tuskegee institute. It was challenged, criticized and the like, but it did much good in calling attention to a national disgrace. For the last two years the Federal Council of Churches in Christ has assumed the task of checking and vouching for the records, which gives them a broader appeal and a higher authority. The council's summary of the case is well worth quoting:

States that have never had a record of a lynching—Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island and Vermont 4
States which have no record of a lynching since 1885—Connecticut, Maine, New Jersey and Utah 4
States which have no record of a lynching during the last ten years—Delaware, Idaho, Indiana, Iowa, Maryland, Nevada, Michigan, Pennsylvania, South Dakota and Wisconsin 10
States which have no record of a lynching five years—Montana, Wyoming, New Mexico, Arizona, Oregon, New York and North Dakota 7
States which have no record of a lynching the last two years—Kentucky, North Carolina, West Virginia, California, Colorado, Nebraska, Kansas, Illinois, Ohio, Washington and Minnesota 11
States which have no record of a lynching during 1923—South Carolina, Alabama and Tennessee 3
Total states free of lynching in 1923 39
States still having mob murder 9

The record shows progress—which ought to be accelerated. If four American states have got along for more than a century without a lynching, the rest can learn to do so. Admitting that the provocation to mob action is much greater in the south and west than in New England, that provocation never is enough to justify lynching.

BURLINGTON VT. NEWS
MARCH 17, 1924

Lynchings

Figures given out by the Federal Council of churches show that in 1923, lynchings throughout the country numbered 28, and these were confined to nine states. Twenty-six of the victims were negroes, two being women.

This number is the lowest in any year since accurate records have been kept. The next lowest was 38 in 1917 and the highest was 253 on 1892. In that year the lynchings took place in 33 states. Last year was the first year since comprehensive records on lynchings have been kept that South Carolina and Alabama have had no lynchings.

Among the four states which have never had a lynching is Vermont. Many reasons, perhaps, could be ascribed, but it is sufficient that Vermont has kept its record clean.

More and more, the country is facing facts regarding lynching and is becoming aroused to the menace of it. The migration of negroes from the South has prompted leading citizens to inquire the cause and lynching has been given as one. The threat of the passage of the Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill by Congress caused citizens and officials in many states to take means to stop lynchings. A similar bill is before the present Congress.

But lynching will not cease entirely until public opinion will no longer tolerate mob murder—no matter what the cause. The most despicable criminal is entitled to a fair trial.

PHILA. TRADE UNION NEWS
MARCH 20, 1924

Non-Lynching Honor Roll Has Names Of 39 States

Only Four States Have Never Had a Lynching, Says Federal Council of Churches

EFFECT OF PUBLIC OPINION

Nine states bore the black shame of lynching in 1923, according to the non-lynching roll of honor of the Federal Council of Churches. These nine states were responsible for 28 mob murders. Twenty-six of the victims were negroes, two being women.

The roll of honor contains the names of 39 states which had no lynchings in 1923. Places on the roll were earned during the last year by South Carolina, Alabama and Tennessee. It is the first year since comprehensive records on lynchings have been kept that South Carolina and Alabama have been free from the crime.

Only four states in the Union have never had a lynching. They are Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island and Vermont. The lynchings of 1923 were confined to groups of states. All four of the west-southern central states were guilty of the crime. Three of the eight southern Atlantic States, one of the four east-south central states and one of the west-northern central states had lynchings.

Roll of Honor

The second annual announcement of the roll of honor is as follows:

States that have never had a record of a lynching; Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island and Vermont. Additional states which have no record of a lynching since 1886: Connecticut, Maine, New Jersey and Utah. Additional states that have no record of a lynching during the past ten years: Delaware, Idaho, Indiana, Iowa, Maryland, Michigan Nevada, Pennsylvania, South Dakota and Wisconsin. Additional states which have no record of lynching in the past five years: Montana, Wyoming, New Mexico, Oregon, New York and North Dakota. Additional states which have no record of a lynching the past two years: Kentucky, North Carolina, West Virginia, California, Colorada, Nebraska, Kansas, Illinois, Washington, Ohio and Minnesota. Additional states which have no record of a lynching during 1923: South Carolina, Alabama and Tennessee. Total states free of lynching in 1923 are 39.

Total states still having mob murder are 9.

This is the second time that the honor roll has been issued by the comsion on church and race relatons of the Federal Council of Churches. It is based on records kept by Professor Monroe N. Work at Tuskegee Institute and the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. They have been carefully checked. When the first roll of honor was issued it was challenged in many states, but when the records were checked over, only one or two adjustments were necessary.

Reduction in Lynchings

There was a great reduction in the number of lynchings in 1923, when there were 28, the lowest number in any year since accurate records have been kept. The next lowest record was 38, in 1917, and the highest was 253, in 1892. In that year there were lynchings in 33 states.

Many reasons are given for the great improvement in conditions. According to the commission on the church and race relations "the campaign for interracial cooperation which includes the fight against lynching, has been started and built upon faith that Christians will join in a sound constructive plan to apply the principles of brotherhood and justice to race relations in America that the principles of Jesus are sufficient to meet all the critical situations that confront us or that may arise and that ways and means will be supplied for enlisting the forces of the churches and communities.

"Christian men and women are facing the facts regarding lynching and are becoming aroused to the menace of it. The migration of negroes has aroused leading citizens also to inquire the cause and lynching has been given as one. Tremendous educational campaigns have been carried on by the Federal Council of Churches, the Commission on Interracial Cooperation, the Women's Council, Methodist Episcopal Church south, other groups of southern church women and other organizations.

Anti-Lynching Bill

"The threat of the passage of the Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill by the United States congress caused citizens and officials in many states to take means to stop lynchings. A similar bill has been introduced in the present congress.

"Several states have passed stringent anti-lynching laws. In some of these laws the family of the victim is given the right to sue the county in which the crime occurs. The widow of a negro lynched in South Carolina obtained a verdict of $2,000 under such a law. Officers of the law are becoming more active in preventing lynchings as public opinion demands it.

"Lynching will cease entirely when public opinion will no longer tolerate mob murder because the great body of Christian people regard those who participate in mobs as criminals."

Reidsville N. C.
Review
MAR 19 1924

28 LYNCHINGS IN UNITED STATES IN PAST YEAR

Washington, March 19.—Twenty eight lynchings occurred in the United States in 1923, according to reports made public by the federal council of churches.

The lynchings took place in nine states, while 39 states were free from lynchings last year. Twenty-six of the victims were negroes, two being women.

The states in which the lynchings took place were Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, Oklahoma, Texas and Virginia.

In its report, the church council said that Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island and Vermont were the only states that had never had a lynching.

The records for 1923 were compiled by Monroe N. Work at Tuskegee Institute and by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

The church council said that threats that the Dyer anti-lynching bill would be passed has led to efforts among the state to prevent such crimes.

NEW YORK CITY SUN
MARCH 15, 1924

LYNCHINGS SHOW GREAT DECREASE

28 in 1923, Lowest Since Records Were Kept.

HIGHEST WAS 253 IN 1892

Crime in Nine States Last Year, Says Federal Church Council.

Special Dispatch to THE SUN.

The Sun Bureau,
Washington, March 15.

The stain of "mob murder" was place on nine States of the Union in 1923, according to statistics made public to-day by the Federal Council of Churches. Of those who were lynched twenty-six were negroes, two of them women.

According to these same statistics there were thirty-nine States in the Union which had no lynchings in 1923. The statement is made that for the first time since comprehensive records were kept by the council South Carolina and Alabama were free from the taint of lynching.

The same records disclose that only four States in the Union have never had a lynching. They are Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island and Vermont.

The lynchings of 1923 were confined to groups of States. All four of the west-southern Central States were guilty of the crime, according to the statistics furnished the Council of Churches. Three of the eight southern Atlantic States, one of the four east-south Central States and one of the west-northern Central States had lynchings.

Second Roll of Honor.

This is the second time that the roll of honor has been issued by the commission on the church and race relations of the Federal Council of Churches. It is based on records kept by Prof. Monroe N. Work at the Tuskegee Institute in Alabama, a colored institution, and the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. They have been carefully checked. When the first roll was issued it was challenged in many States, but when the records were checked over only one or two adjustments were necessary.

The council states that there was a great reduction in the number of lynchings in 1923, when there were twenty-eight, the lowest number in any year since accurate records have been kept. The next lowest record was thirty-eight in 1917, and the highest was 253, in 1922. In that year there were lynchings in thirty-three States.

Many reasons are given for the great improvement in conditions. According to the commission of the church and race relations the campaign for interracial cooperation, which includes the fight against lynching, has been started and built upon faith that Christians will join in a sound constructive plan to apply the principles of brotherhood and justice to race relations in America.

Educational Campaign.

"Christian men and women are facing the facts regarding lynching and are becoming aroused to the menace of it," says the council. "The migration of negroes has aroused leading citizens also to inquire the cause and lynching has been given as one. Tremendous educational campaigns have been carried on by the Federal Council of Churches, the commision on interracial cooperation, the Woman's Council, Methodist Episcopal Church South, other groups of Southern churches, by the National Association for the advancement of colored people and by other organizations.

"The threat of the passage of the Dyer Anti-Lynching bill by Congress caused citizens and officials in many States to take means to stop lynchings. A similar bill has been introduced in the present Congress.

"Several States have passed stringent anti-lynching laws. In some of these laws the family of the victim is given the right to sue the county in which the crime occurs. The widow of a negro lynched in South Carolina obtained a verdict of $2,000 under such a law. Officers of the law are becoming more active in preventing lynchings as public opinion demands it.

"Lynchings will cease entirely when public opinion will not longer tolerate mob murder because the great body of Christian people regard those who participate in mobs as criminals."

Lincolnton N.C.
News
MAR 20 1924

Nine states bore the black shame of lynching in 1923, according to the Non-Lynching Roll of Honor of the Federal Council of Churches. These nine states were responsible for 28 mob murders. Twenty-six of the victims were negroes, two being women. North Carolina did no lynching last year.

Lynchings—1923.
Federal Council of Churches, Reports on.

1274

ATLANTA, GA. JOURNAL

DEC 13 1923

LYNCHINGS SLUMP UNDER '22 RECORD, CHURCHMAN SAYS

COLUMBUS, Ohio, Dec. 13.—(By the Associated Press).—The last twelve months have made a golden year in the lynching record of the country, it was declared in a statement presented to the afternoon session of the executive committee of the Federal Council of Churches today by its commission on race relations. Indications are that 1923 will have only half as many lynchings as 1922, according to the report. J. J. Eagan, of Atlanta, Ga., is chairman of the committee, and W. W. Alexander, of Atlanta, and Dr. George E. Haynes, of New York, are secretaries.

The statement of the commission presented by Dr. Haynes, told of the campaign of education against lynching carried on by the churches, of the remarkable co-operation given by the press of the country, not only in the south, but also in the north, and said that in the first six months of 1923 there were only 14 lynchings in the United States, thirteen of them being negro victims. In the first six months of 1922 there were thirty lynchings and in the first six months of 1921 there were thirty-three.

The total figures for the last six months are not available, Dr. Haynes said, but those at hand show that the number will be well under half of the 57 lynchings which were carried on in 1922, unless some great outbreak occurs.

LYNCHING RECORD CUT BY CHURCH INFLUENCE

Only Half as Many in 1923, Says Federated Council

(By the Associated Press.)

COLUMBUS, O., Dec. 13.—The last 12 months have made a golden year in the lynching record of the country, it was declared in a statement presented to the afternoon session of the executive committee of the federal council of churches today by its commission on race relations. Indications are that 1923 will have only half as many lynchings as 1922, according to the report. J. J. Eagan of Atlanta, Ga., is chairman of the committee and W. W. Alexander of Atlanta and Dr. George E. Haynes of New York are secretaries.

The statement of the commission presented by Dr. Haynes told of the campaign of education against lynching carried on by the churches, of the remarkable co-operation given by the press of the country, not only in the south but in the north, and said that in the first six months of 1923 there were only 14 lynchings in the United States, 13 of them being negro victims. In the first six months of 1922, there were 30 lynchings and in the first six months of 1921 there were thirty-three.

The total figures for the last six months are not available, Dr. Haynes said, but those at hand show that the number will be well under half of the 57 lynchings which were carried on in 1922, unless some great outbreak occurs.

Dr. Haynes told of the conference held during the year, of the progress made in bringing about inter-racial good will and understanding in many cities, including St. Louis, Chicago, Toledo, Buffalo, Johnstown, Washington, Baltimore, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, Cincinnati, Dayton, Cleveland, Youngstown, Indianapoli Wichita, Kansas City and Hartford.

The report calls upon the churches to continue their work for interracial good will and declared that the racial problems of the country can only be settled on Christian principles and ideals. In telling of its plan for 1924, the committee holds out the hope that by churches marshalling their forces, the lynching evil may be completely eliminated from national life in an other year.

RICHMOND, VA., Times

DEC 22 1923

Lynchings Becoming Fewer.

"According to a statement just presented to the executive committee of the Federal council of churches by its commission on r cial relations, says the Lynchbu News, "the year 1923 is likely pass into history with a re showing a marked decreas lynching—it being likely tha number of such cases in the ent year will be but half number occurring during the vious twelve months. The gratifying result is attributed to the campaign of education which has been carried on under church auspices, and the 'remarkable co-operation' of the press, both in the South and North. It is interesting to know that those who are most intimately in contact with the race problem and the lynching evil, feel that they have abundant reason for encouragement at the outlook—that they are convinced that the moral force of public opinion, energized and put to work, is proving an effective corrective agency. The facts may well be commended to the attention of President Coolidge who has just recommended the extreme, unjustifiable, futile expedient of Federal anti-lynching legislation, and to the members of Congress who are of his way of thinking."

LYNCHING DROPS A HALF IN 1923

NEW YORK CITY SUN
DECEMBER 13, 1

Federal Council of Churches Hears Promising Report.

HAS CONDUCTED A CAMPAIGN

Christianity Held Only Basis for Inter-Racial Harmony.

COLUMBUS, Ohio, Dec. 13 (Associated Press).—The last twelve months have made a gold year in the lynching record of the country, it was declared in a statement presented to the afternoon session of the executive committee of the Federal Council of Churches to-day by its commission on race relations. Indications are that 1923 will have only half as many lynching as 1922, according to the report. J. J. Egan of Atlanta, Ga., is chairman of the committee and W. W. Alexander of Atlanta and Dr. George E. Haynes of New York are secretaries.

The statement of the commission presented by Dr. Haynes told of the campaign of education against lynching carried on by the churches, of the remarkable cooperation given by the press of the country and said that in the first six months of 1923 there were only fourteen lynchings in the United States, thirteen of the victims being negroes. In the first six months of 1922 there were thirty lynchings, and in the first six months of 1921 there were thirty-three.

The total figures for the last six months are not available, Dr. Haynes said, but those at hand show that the number will be well under half of the fifty-seven lynchings which were carried on in 1922 unless some great outbreak occurs.

Dr. Haynes told of the conferences held during the year, of the progress made in bringing about inter-racial good will and understanding in many cities, including St. Louis, Chicago, Toledo, Buffalo, Johnstown, Washington, Baltimore, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, Cincinnati, Dayton, Cleveland, Youngstown, Indianapolis, Wichita, Kan.; Kansas City and Hartford.

The report calls upon the churches to continue their work for inter-racial good will and declares that the racial problems of the country can only be settled on Christian principles and ideals. In telling of its plan for 1924, the committee ventures the hope that by the churches marshaling their forces the lynching evil may be completely eliminated from national life in another year.

Less Lynching.

The commission on race relations of the Federal Council of Churches reports that 1923 will have not more than half the number of lynchings as were recorded in 1922. In the first six months of 1923 there were only fourteen lynchings in the United States, thirteen of them being Negro victims. One might wonder why the report should say "only fourteen" until it reads that in the same period for 1922 there were thirty lynchings and in the first six months of 1921 thirty-three. Total figures for the last six months of 1923 are not available yet, but unless there is some great outbreak the total for the year will be well under the fifty-seven lynchings which blackened the record of 1922. This betterment is due in considerable measure to the active campaign of education carried on by the churches during the past year, which campaign had the splendid co-operation of the press of the country. Conferences on race relations were held in seventeen of the cities of the country, the cities selected being pretty evenly distributed among the various sections of the country. Let the good work go on until our record is clean of the foul blot.

Lynchings—1923.

Federal Council of Churches Reports on,

1275

INDIANAPOLIS IND STAR
MARCH 22, 1924

DECREASE IN LYNCHINGS.

Lynching is steadily becoming more unpopular in the United States and the record of such extra-legal proceedings is consequently much more favorable. The number of lynchings in 1923 was twenty-eight, the lowest for any year since accurate records have been kept. The next lowest record was thirty-eight in 1917. The highest was 253, in 1892, when lynchings occurred in thirty-two states. The list for that year and the fact that eight-elevenths of all the states in the Union were included indicates the decided change in public opinion during the last generation, coupled with a marked increase in the efficiency of law enforcement agencies. The lynchings in 1923 were confined to nine states. The statistics have been issued by the Federal Council of Churches from figures compiled by Tuskegee institute.

Many reasons have been advanced for the marked decline in the cases of mob murder. Among them the church report cites the progress made by the churches and also the sentiment which developed in Congress for the Dyer anti-lynching bill. It is doubtful if either of these factors figured prominently in improving conditions as some others, although the church's influence naturally contributed toward producing a finer type of citizenship which deplored summary and primitive methods of supposed justice. Officers of the law are becoming more active in preventing control by mobs because they are now supported by public opinion. A number of states have passed stringent anti-lynching laws, some of them providing that the family of the victim may sue the county in which the outrage occurred. The widow of a South Carolina negro recently got a verdict of $2,000 under such a law.

Economic reasons probably have been the most prominent factors leading toward improved conditions in the Southern states. The tremendous exodus of negroes in the years following the war created an acute labor situation in many communities, tending to improve the status of the colored workmen. The migration also lessened the fear of possible negro domination, Mississippi now being the only state in which the negro population outnumbers the white. Three Southern states—South Carolina, Alabama and Tennessee—joined the honor roll by reporting no lynchings within their borders during 1923. This group should guard the distinction which has come to it and neighboring states should emulate that example. An enlightened public sentiment and law enforcement maintained by vigilant officials should result in still better record for succeeding years.

NEW YORK CITY TELEGRAM
MARCH 15, 1924

LESS LYNCHING IS 1923 RECORD

Church Council Survey Shows Steady Growth of Law and Order.

Special Dispatch to The New York Telegram and Evening Mail.

Telegram-Mail Bureau,
Washington, D. C., Saturday.

One white person and twenty-six negroes were lynched in 1923. Two of the negroes were women. Nine States carry the responsibility. As an indication that love of the law, even in the face of the various suggestions that lawlessness is growing, still dominates, it has developed that three Southern States, heretofore with some record for mob rule, have changed their habits.

These States are South Carolina, Alabama and Tennessee. Only four States never have had a lynching. They are Vermont, Rhode Island, Massachusetts and New Hampshire.

Last year, according to the Federal Council of Churches, which keeps tab on the records, "all four of the West-Southern Central States were guilty of the crime. Three of the eight Southern Atlantic States, one of the four East-Southern Central States and one of the West-Northern Central States had lynchings.

Second Roll of Honor Out.

The second annual announcement of the roll of honor by the Federal Council of Churches is as follows:—

States that have never had a lynching—Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island and Vermont.

Other States which have no record of a lynching since 1886—Connecticut, Maine, New Jersey and Utah.

Other States that have no record of a lynching in the past ten years—Delaware, Idaho, Indiana, Iowa, Maryland, Michigan, Nevada, Pennsylvania, South Dakota and Wisconsin.

Other States which have no record of lynching in the past five years—Montana, Wyoming, New Mexico, Arizona, Oregon, New York and North Dakota.

Other States which have no record of lynching in the past two years—Kentucky, North Carolina, West Virginia, California, Colorado, Nebraska, Kansas, Illinois, Washington, Ohio and Minnesota.

Other States which have no record of a lynching during 1923—South Carolina, Alabama and Tennessee.

Total States free of lynching in 1923—Thirty-nine.

Total States still having mob murder—Nine.

The report continues:—

Campaign Built on Faith.

"This is the second time that the roll of honor has been issued by the Commission on the Church and Race Relations of the Federal Council of Churche. It is based on records kept by Professor Monroe N. Work at Tuskegee Institute and the National Association for the advancement of Colored People. They have been carefully checked.

"When the first roll of honor was issued it was challenged in many States, but when the records were checked over only one or two adjustments were necessary.

"There was a great reduction in the number of lynchings in 1923, when there were twenty-eight, the lowest number in any year since accurate records have been kept.

"The next lowest record was thirty-eight in 1917, and the highest was 253 in 1892. In that year there were lynchings in thirty-three States.

"Many reasons are given for great improvement in conditions, according to the Commission on Church and Race Relations. The campaign for inter-racial co-operation, which includes the fight against lynching, has been started and built up on faith that Christians will join in a sound constructive plan to apply the principles of brotherhood and justice to race relations in America; that the principles of Jesus are sufficient to meet al lthe critical situations that confront us or that may arise, and that ways and means will be supplied for enlisting the forces in the churches and communities.

"Christian men and women are facing the facts regarding lynching, and are becoming aroused to the menace of it. The migration of negroes has aroused leading citizens also to inquire the causes, and lynching has been given as one. Themendous educational campaigns have been carried on by the Federal Council of Churches, the Committee on Inter-racial Co-operation, the Women's Council, the Methodist Episcopal Church South, other groups of Southern church women, by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and by other organizations.

States Pass Stringent Laws.

"The threat of the passage of the Dyer anti-lynching bill by the Congress caused citizens and officials in many States to take means to stop lynching. A similar bill has been introduced in the present Congress.

"Several States have passed stringent anti-lynching laws. In some of these laws the family of the victim is given the right to sue the county in which the crime occurs.

"The widow of a negro lynched in South Carolina obtained a verdict of $2,000 under such a law. Officers of the law are becoming more active in preventing lynchings as public opinion demands it.

"Lynching will cease entirely when public opinion will no longer tolerate mob murder because the great body of Christian people regard those who participate in mobs as criminals."

LANCASTER PA NEW ERA
DECEMBER 15, 1923

Fewer Lynchings.

In the face of a Southern filibuster, the anti-lynching bill had to be abandoned at the last session of Congress, but it appears that the agitation that it stirred up was not wholly fruitless. It helped to build and solidify public opinion to such a point that without any additional regulations, the numbber of lynchings has been cut in half.

Reporting to the Federal Council of Churches, Dr. George F. Haynes, of New York declares that in the first six months of 1923 there were only 14 lynchings in the United States as compared with 30 in the corresponding period of the previous year, and 33 in 1921. The total figures for the last six months are not available, but Dr. Haynes states that unless some great unforseen outbreak occurs they will be well under half the 57 lynchings marked up against 1922.

This is fine work, and has only been possible by the renewed and energetic cooperation of all the more enlightened persons and institutions against the evil. The churches have helped; conferences on inter-racial good will have been held in many cities; men prominent in public life have exerted their influence in their communities; the press of the country north and south, has done its part.

Next year we should cut this year's total in half. Perhaps we can do even better if we keep at it.

Lynchings—1923.
Federal Council of Churches, Reports on.

1480

Augusta, Ga. CHRONICLE

DEC 16 1923

The Decrease In Lynching

The whole country is interested in the announcement of the Federal Council of Churches to the effect that less than half as many lynchings occurred during the past year than for the previous twelve month and unless some unprecedented and unparalleled outbreak occurs during the next days of the year.

The statement is gratifying, for in addition to the elimination of the tragic consequences surrounding lynchings it naturally follows that deductions may be made to effect that the crimes for which punishment by lynching is usually meted out, is undoubtedly diminishing. The educational work among the churches for promoting good feeling among the races can only be partially responsible for the decline in lynching. It is thorough acquaintance with results and education as to the fruits of the atrocious crimes that contributes most convincingly to the decrease of these crimes and lynching.

It is pecularily noticeable, and at the same time commendable, that Georgians are at the helm of the work represented by this phase of the activities of the Federal Council of Church. Nobody deplores lynchings more than Georgians—and South Carolinians—and nobody is more vitally interested in the suppression and elimination of the causes that lead up to lynching than Georgians—and Southern people generally. However, it must be borne in mind, and here it may be emphasized, that the South is not alone in its lynchings, and, as a matter of fact, some other sections, relatively speaking, have superseded the South in activities along this line—a discredit that is deplorable—but conditions here and there and everywhere that produce the abominable crimes will produce the same results.

Charleston, S. C.

DEC 13 1923 Post

Fewer Lynchings Occur ~~During~~ 1923

(By the Associated Press)

Columbus, Ohio, Dec. 13.—The last twelve months have made a golden year in the lynching record of the country, it was declared in a statement presented to the afternoon session of the executive committee of the Federal Council of Churches today by its commission on race relations. Indications are that 1923 will have only half as many lynchings as 1922 according to the report. J. J. Eagan of Atlanta is chairman of the committee and W. W. Alexander of Atlanta and Dr. George E. Haynes of New York are secretaries.

The statement of the commission presented by Dr. Haynes told of the campaign of education against lynching carried on by the churches of the remarkable cooperation given by the press of the country, not only in the South but also in the North, and said that in the first six months of 1923 there were only 14 lynchings in the United States, 13 of them being negro victims. In the first six months of 1922 there were 30 lynchings and in the first six months of 1921 there were 33.

The total figures for the last six months are not available, Dr. Haynes said, but those at hand show that the number will be well under half of the fifty-seven lynchings which were carried on in 1922, unless some groat outbreak occurs.

WASHINGTON D. C. STAR
JANUARY 5, 1924

Decline in Lynching.

It is believed that 1923 will show a marked decrease in lynching in the United States as compared with 1922, 1921 and previous years. There is gratification in this, and it may be that the lynching evil will disappear or that lynching will become an unusual crime. The commission on race relations of the Federal Council of Churches has reported that for the first six months of this year there were fourteen lynchings in the United States, thirteen of the victims being negroes, while in the first six months of 1922 there were thirty lynchings and in the first six months of 1921 thirty-three. The report says that, though all figures for the last six months of 1923 are not at hand, the indications are that they will show that the number of lynchings in 1923 will be less than half the number in 1922, which was fifty-seven. The report tells of the campaign of education carried on by the churches against lynching and of remarkable co-operation by the press of the north and south. The figures indicate that Americans are making progress toward correction of this demoralizing vice.

Lynchings—1923.
Legal Punishment for Rape.

Ark-ansas.

1363

Gets 3 Years For Assault On Young Girl

Proprietor of Garage Locked Door and Kept Girl Prisoner During Storm.

LITTLE ROCK, Ark., July 19—Henry L. Dorsey was found guilty of having assaulted a young woman whose name was not divulged, last Thursday afternoon in Criminal Court and sentenced to three years in the State Penitentiary. The jury was out less than thirty minutes. Dorsey waived the time allowed before the passing of the sentence and was sentenced by Judge Wade immediately following his conviction.

Dorsey is a prominent proprietor of a garage here. He was charged with attacking a prominent society woman in his garage here on May 3, last. It is said that the crime was committed when the young lady went into his garage during a heavy rain storm. During the trial it was brought out in the testimony that the woman had known Dorsey for a number of years and as far as she knew at the time she sought shelter from the storm in his place of business she would be perfectly safe. She told the court that Dorsey was in the garage alone when she went in out of the storm and that he invited her into his office, locked the door behind them and put the key in his pocket, and then like a wild animal attacked her. Screams for help failing to bring aid.

Lynchings—1923
Legal Punishment for Rape.

Georgia.

1364

Clinch County Negro Pardoned By Gov. Walker

First Sentenced to Hang, Lane Wins Freedom After Fight of 10 Years.

Waycross, Ga., July 8.—(Special.) Lige Lane, 33-year-old negro who was sentenced to be hanged by a jury in the Clinch county superior court in the fall of 1913, and whose sentence was later commuted to life imprisonment by Governor Slaton, today was granted a pardon by Governor Cliff Walker. The pardon was recommended by the prison commission.

Lane gained his freedom only after a fight which extended over ten years. He was convicted on a charge of assault upon a woman then living in Homerville, was found guilty and sentenced to be hanged. He was brought to the Ware county jail for safekeeping following his conviction, and later when his sentence was commuted to life imprisonment he was assigned to the Ware county chaingang.

So strong was the sentiment in Clinch county that Lane was innocent of the crime that four different lawyers have at various times volunteered their services without compensation in an effort to win for Lane a pardon.

Attorney R. G. Dickerson, of Valdosta, who knew the accused as a boy, took over the case last year and has been untiring in his effort to secure a pardon.

Petitions and affidavits signed by hundreds of Clinch county citizens, including the majority of the trial jurors the judge of the superior court, the ordinary and many prominent women of the county, asking a pardon and asserting their belief in Lane's innocence were presented to the prison commission and the governor.

Many influential Waycross citizens also have become interested in the case and have carried on an agitation for his release.

Lane's been a model prisoner, serving as a trusty under Ward F. Wood, who stated that he had explicit confidence in the prisoner, and has granted him many privileges. He has made many friends both white and colored, during the ten years of service in this county.

NEGRO FOUND GUILTY OF ATTACK ON COUPLE

Waycross, Ga., December [illegible]. Feeling which has run high over the attack by a negro on an aged couple near here a short time ago, subsided somewhat tonight when a jury deliberating on the case of Andrew Moody, indicted today for assault with intent to murder, returned a verdict of guilty with a sentence of from three to five years. The prisoner was reported to be under a heavy guard.

Lynchings — 1923.
Legal Punishment for Rape.

Illinois.

1365

CHICAGO MAN GETS 60 YEARS FOR ASSAULT

The New York

CHICAGO, Aug. 10.—A jury in Judge Sabath's court, after twenty minutes' deliberation convicted Morell Turner and fixed his punishment at sixty years in Joliet penitentiary for robbing and attacking Miss Agnes Blomquist, 20 years old, 7128 Prairie avenue.

Assistant State's Attorney Lyons demanded a fifty-year sentence, but the jury exceeded the State's demands. Five minutes after the verdict the court overruled a motion for a new trial, and after branding the case "one of the most terrible ever heard in the criminal court" pronounced sentence.

Turner is 30 years old now and there is no time remitted from a prison sentence on that kind of a charge.

Lynchings — 1923.
Legal Punishment for Rape.

Maryland.

1366

COURTS AVERAGE ONE CASE OF RAPE EVERY WEEK

31 Cases of Criminal Assault Have Come Into State's Attorney's Office This Year

FEW RAPISTS CONVICTED

Only 5 Out of 31 Now Serving Terms in Jail or Penitentiary

10-5-'23.

One girl under sixteen years of age each week since January 1st, had been assaulted and ruined by the lust of some man or boy according to records in the office of the State's Attorney and the Baltimore Criminal Justice Commission.

Since the first of the year there have come into the courts of the city 31 cases of rape, assault and carnal knowledge. All of these except one have been committed on girls under sixteen years of age and ten on girls even under 12 years. Of the persons charged with this class of crimes twenty-two have been men over 18-years of age, while the remainder have been less mature youths.

Few Go To Prison

Of twenty-six cases whose records are complete only five are serving prison terms. They are, Braich Bolling, who is serving a 15-year term for committing rape on 12-year-old Hazel Morgan; William Johnson is serving a 17-year term in the House of Correction for committing the same offense on Rosella Maloy. Eli Boone got three years in the penitentiary for assaulting Bessie Watkins and Elijah Foley is serving a 17-year term for assaulting Elizabeth Valentine. The other man serving time is Lawrence Miller, who assaulted Lenia Miller.

Fourteen of those tried in the Criminal Court were acquitted of the crime while the State entered a stet in two cases and Nolle Prossed one. In one case a fine of $54.45 covering costs was assessed while in three cases the defendants were paroled. Had victims been white, severer sentences would undoubtedly have handed out.

The character of the prosecuting witness has entered as a big factor in the lenient treatment given a number of these cases, it being shown often that even in the cases of some of the very young victims the element of physical force was missing.

Law Specific

The laws of Maryland limits the age of consent to 14-years. But between the ages of 14 and 16-years even, without force, the act constitutes the crime of carnal knowledge, for which a prison sentence may be given, provided the defendant is over 18-years of age. Through this loophole several younger offenders have escaped serious punishment. Both courts and juries are said to be lenient unless parents push cases hard. Perhaps hundreds of similar cases never get to court at all.

Since the first of the year those tried for one or more of these crimes have been as follows:

Rape: Andrew Bailey, Lee Staton, Charles Thomas, Branch Bolling, Sylvester Simms, Alex Graham, Charles E. Dixon, Edward Bush, William Duppins, Louis Williams, Alexander Hebb, Eli Boone, Elijah Fooley, and Laurence Miller.

Attempted Rape: William Wilson.

Carnal Knowledge: George Johnson, John Otho, William Johnson, Rodger Berryman, Richard Press, Robert Tarter, Joseph Hall, Frank Brown, George Moore, Lewis Rice, Fred Wiggins and Parker Hooks.

Lynchings — 1923.
Legal Punishment for Rape.

North Carolina.

1367

High Point N.C
Enterprise
NOV 30 1923

STAY OF SENTENCE.

RALEIGH, Nov. 30.—John Goss, negro who was to die in the electric chair at 10:30 this morning, was granted a seven-day respite early today by Governor Cameron Morrison. The governor left shortly after midnight for New York for a stay of several days and following out a policy of not permitting electrocutions to take place while he was out of the state and not within reach of any one with a worthwhile last minute clemency plea, he ordered the stay of execution.

At the governor's office it was stated that no plea for clemency for Goss had been received nor was it contemplated to extend the stay over the seven-day period. Goss was convicted for an attack upon a white woman provoking the racial disturbance in Mitchell county in September.

Lynchings—1923.
Legal Punishment for Rape.

North Carolina.

1368

Condemned Negro Sings While Going To Electric Chair

Raleigh, N. C., June 28.—Ed Dill, negro, convicted in Beaufort county of an attack on a white woman, was executed this morning at the North Carolina state prison. He was singing as he entered the death chamber, and continued to sing while he was being strapped into the electric chair. "Folks, they're going to electrocute an innocent man this morning," Dill said after he had finished his song. "Lord help me; Lord save me," he added.

NEGRO SENTENCED TO DIE IN CHAIR ON ASSAULT COUNT

Nashville, N. C., December 1.—Lee Washington, negro, late today was found guilty in Nash county superior court on a charge of attacking a white woman and was sentenced to die in the electric chair on Friday, December 28. Washington received the sentence calmly and without show of emotion.

Immediately after sentence was passed, the negro was taken to the state penitentiary at Raleigh.

A detachment of soldiers which had been on guard at the courth ouse today, returned to their station at Wilson tonight. There was no demonstration of any kind.

PLEADED GUILTY TO INCITING RIOT AND CONSPIRACY

John Goss Condemned to Electric Chair; Seventy-Seven Rioters Indicted; Many Others Yet To Be Arrested.

GRAND JURY AND COURT PUSH CASE

10-27-23

Spruce Pine, N. C.—The Mitchell County grand jury investigating the circumstances in the driving from the vicinity of the town 200 or more colored road construction workers following an alleged attack upon an aged white woman of the town by a colored man, this week returned true bills against 77 persons on indictments charging ,unlawful assembly, conspiracy and inciting to riot. All of the indicted were required to furnish $200 bail for their appearance in the next term of court.

Eighty-five men were included in the bill sent by the solicitors for the consideration of the grand jury. Fifteen of those indicted pleaded guilty and prayer for judgement was continued until the November term of court.

While the Mitchell County grand jury was considered the case of the indicted men the Superior Court was passing the death sentence upon John Goss, the man accused of assaulting the white woman.

Lynchings— 1923.
Legal Punishment for Rape.

Tennessee

1369

Confesses Crime for Which Mays Hung

Knoxville, Tenn., Oct. 11.—An alleged negro thief arrested here last week confessed assault upon a white woman for which Maurice Mays was hanged two years ago.

Attempt to lynch Mays precipitated the Knoxville riots and persons all over the country contributed the court battle to procure his release.

NEGRO TO BE EXECUTED

Convicted of Attacking White Woman and Sentenced to Electrocution.

JOHNSON CITY, TENN., Oct. 22—John Goss, negro, who went on trial at Bakersville, N. C., this morning, on a charge of attacking a white woman, was found guilty after five minutes' deliberation by the jury and was sentenced to death by electrocution on November 30, 1923, according to word received here tonight from Bakersville.

The attack on the woman precipitated a racial disturbance at Spruce Pines, N. C., last month and about two hundred negroes were deported from the town and its vicinity by the white citizens.

Troops were ordered there by Governor Morrison of North Carolina and remained on duty for ten days before order had been restored but only a few of the negroes returned to their jobs.

Man Alleged Cause Of N. C. Riot, Guilty

Must Pay Death Penalty for Alleged Assault on White Woman—Protests Innocence.

Johnson City, Tenn., Nov. 8.—John Goss, alleged cause of the race riot at Spruce Pine, N. C., was convicted of murder in the first degree and sentenced to death by electrocution on November 30, after a jury had deliberated less than five minutes on the case.

Goss was alleged to have attacked a white woman, and this attack precipitated the disturbance of the races, which resulted in the deportation of about 200 colored citizens and a reign of martial law, ordered out by Governor Morrison.

The case was tried and a verdict rendered in less than four hours, although the man protested his innocence.

Lynchings—1923 Texas.

Legal Punishment for Rape

1370

HANG NEGRO AT COLUMBUS.

COLUMBUS, Texas, March 9.—Fay Jones, negro, 28, convicted of criminal assault on a white woman in Gonzales county, was hanged at the county farm here Friday afternoon. 3/10/23

He previously protested his innocence, but on the gallows confessed to the crime.

LAKE SLAVI DUE.

Evidence in Texas Case Discounted

Houston, Tex., June 29.—The local branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People reports that the state court of criminal appeals has reversed a lower court which had sentenced Luther Collins to be hanged on a charge of rape. The higher court has ruled that new evidence should be admitted at the retrial, which occurs in September. The Houston branch, which has spent about $1,200 in defense of the man, hopes that he can be proved to have been absolutely innocent of the crime he was charged with. Attorneys declare previous testimony against Collins will be greatly discounted.

The new evidence to be offered includes affidavits by the white man accompanying the woman attacked, stating that Luther Collins was not the assailant. Other affidavits establish the following facts: That the woman's description of her assailant does not tally with Luther Collins; that she told a woman investigator that she was not sure of her identification but intended to stick to her story since she had begun; that another man, seen loitering near the scene of the crime was of different height and build than Collins, and that Collins was in his rooming house the evening of the alleged as-

Luther Collins of Houston, Texas, convicted and sentenced to be hanged on a charge of rape, has been granted a new trial by the State Court of Criminal Appeals, which reversed the lower court. The case was fought by the Houston Branch N. A. A. C. P., which has spent some $1,200 in behalf of Collins. New evidence to be presented includes an affidavit from a white man who was in company with the white woman alleged to have been raped in which he declares Collins was not the assailant. It was brought out also that the description given by the woman of her assailant did not tally with Collins' appearance, and that the woman had stated to an investigator that although she was not sure of her identification of Collins she intended to stick to it since she had begun.

Lynchings—1923.

Virginia.

Legal Punishment for Rape.

1371

"RED" JACKSON TO BE EXTRADITED

11-10-23

Richard Jackson, alias "Red" Jackson is to be returned to Virginia for an alleged assault on a white woman by the name of Miss Hawkins in Arlington County.

Jackson was arrested here in May 1922, and requisition from the Governor of Virginia was honored by Chief Justice McCoy, but the Atty. Royal A. Hughes and Armond W. Scott as counsel for the accused sued out a writ of habeas corpus, claiming that the chief Justice had erred in finding that Jackson was in the demanding state at the time of the commission of the crime.

When the case came before Justice Hitz in the Supreme Court here, witness after witness testified that Jackson was not in Virginia at the time the crime was committed; but Justice Hitz ruled that he should be returned to Virginia. This week the Court of Appeals for the District, upheld the ruling of Justice Hitz.

Lynchings—1923
Legal Punishment of Lynchers.
Alabama.

1352

WILL TRY GUARDSMEN ACCUSED OF LYNCHING

The Commercial

First Goes to Trial in Jasper Case, August 27.

Appeal 8-11-23

HAMILTON, Ala., Aug. 10.—Judge Ernest Lacey has called a two weeks' special term of circuit court for Marion County, beginning Aug. 27, for the purpose of trying the members of the Alabama National Guard who are charged with lynching William Baird, mine official, near Jasper early in 1921.

A venire of 100 jurors was drawn today, and Aug. 27 was set for trial for Robert J. Lancaster. The date of trial of Joseph W. Key and Glen R. Stephens will be set on Sept. 3. Judge H. A. Pearce of South Alabama will preside during the trial.

BAIRD LYNCHING TRIAL POSTPONED

Tuscaloosa Guardsmen Notified Not Needed at Hamilton

TUSCALOOSA, ALA., July 26.—The arraignment of Tuscaloosa guardsmen at Hamilton today, charged with the lynching of William Baird who was confined in the Walker county jail in 1921, charged with shooting 4 guardsmen on strike duty has been passed, according to telegram telling guardsmen not to come. Further information as to the disposition of the cases has not been received here.

WILL TRY LANCASTER ON LYNCHING CHARGE

The Constitution

Tuscaloosa, Ala., August 15.—Approximately 150 subpoenas are being served here and other preparations are being made for the third trial of Robert L. Lancaster, former sergeant of Company M, Tuscaloosa company of the national guard, charged with participation in the lynching of W. M. Baird, in Walker county January 13, 1921, when company M was on strike duty. Twice the jury has disagreed in the case which will be heard at Hamilton, Ala., begining August 27. Baird was in jail in Jasper, charged with killing one of the members of Company M at the time he was taken by a heavily armed mob, said to number thirty or more men, and shot to deat at 2:30 a. m., three miles from Jasper.

Cases of Glenn L. Stephens and Joseph Key, also of Company M, will be set for September 3, it is understood here. As a result of disagreements in the Lancaster case they have never been given a hearing. Nine members of the company were indicted following the lynching.

Nat'l Guardsman Goes on Trial Fourth Time

Montgomery Advertiser 10-20-23

For the fourth time Robert L. Lancaster, former national guardsman, will be placed on trial the second Monday in January, on a charge of murder growing out of the death of William Baird, a coal miner, during the 1921 coal strike. During the same week seven other defendants in the same case will be arraigned.

News received Sunday from Birmingham stated this announcement has been made by Judge Horace C. Wilkinson, who will direct the prosecution for the state. Although the shooting of Baird took place in Walker county, there was a change of venue to Marion county following the arrest. The cases will therefore be tried in the Marion county court house at Marion.

Mistrials have resulted in the previous trials of Lancaster.

Lynchings — 1923.
Legal Punishment of Lynchers. 1353

Arkansas.

-1353

ARKANSAS MOB RULE INVESTIGATION SIDETRACKED BY RAILROAD OFFICIALS CIVIL LIBERTIES UNION CHARGES.

Atlanta Constitution

New York, N. Y., March 9.—Investigation by the Arkansas Legislature into the lynchings of E. C. Gregor, a railroad striker, at Harrison on January 15th, has been side-tracked by officials of the Missouri and North Arkansas railroad, according to charges made by thre American Civil Liberties Union in a letter to Governor Thomas C. MacRae, signed by Roger N. Baldwin, director, and Harry F. Ward, chairman. 3-10-23

The officers of the Civil Liberties Union, who have been in touch with the situation through their correspondents in Arkansas, offer "to render any assistance possible to the authorities of the state in restoring civil rights in the affected district and in bringing to justice the perpetrators of these outrages." They charge that "sinister influences are at work to prevent anything being done in the future," and maintain that the Ku Klux Klan has "endeavored through secret channels to prevent any effective public investigation being made."

"Is it not true," the Civil Liberties communication asks of Governor McRaze, "that you, as governor, have refused to protect railroad strikers driven out of Harrison and surrounding territory who have asked you for protection in order that they may return to their homes?" Only those men who have submitted to the dictation of J. C. Murray, manager of the Missouri and North Arkansas Railway, "virtually abandoning their labor connections and agreeing to go back on non-union conditions," have been permitted to return, the officers charge.

The communication to the Governor asks:

"Is it not true that the committee appointed by the Legislature to investigate conditions in Harrison has not yet started this investigation and has fixed no date when they would do so? Is it not equally true that this committee started out with evident good faith to do the job, and lost interest at the time that J. C. Murray and otrer officials of the Missouri and North Arkansas railway came to Little Rock?

"Is it not a fair question to ask whether the officials of the railroad, who control the Citizens' Committee responsible for the lynching in Harrison and for all the disturbances which took place there, was not a mob in any proper sense of the word but an organized group of men directed by the officials of the railroad and their associates?

"Did not O. B. Robbins, who is associated with the railroad's interest, name members of the Citizens' Committee and give orders as to its activitiy? Are not Mr. Robins and others now active in preventing any investigation of the Citizens' Committee and its lawless activity and in denying to the strikers and their sympathizers any civil rights whatever in their own home districts?

"These questions are of interest to the American public as a whole," the Civil Liberties letter states. "They are by no means confined to the State of Arkansas, and we therefore take the liberty because of our interest in the maintenance of civil rights throughout the country, of addressing you."

Violation of Law In Harrison, Ark Cleanup Denied

Citizens' Side Is Given at Hearing Before Legislative Committee.

Atlanta Constitution
Atlanta Ga.

Harrison, Ark., March 22.—(By the Associated Press.)—The citizens' "committee of twelve" at Harrison did not supersede the Boone county courts and he saw nothing that was done or sanctioned by the committee that would have required the intervention of the court, Karl Greenhaw, serving his third term as prosecuting attorney of the fourteenth judicial district late today told the special investigating committee of the Arkansas legislature probing the trouble at Harrison last January.

The lynching of E. O. Gregor, striking railroad employee and the whipping of strikers or sympathizers reported had been probed from every angle by the Boone county grand jury, he said. The grand jury was unable to discover anything more than what strikers who had been in the room from which Gregor was taken had testified before the committee at Little Rock, he said. Striking railroad employees at Little Rock testified that Gregor had been taken from the room in which strikers were held at Harrison for further questioning before the committee by three masked men, whose identity, according to testimony has never been discovered.

The committee nearing the end of the hearing the citizens' side of the disorders along the Missouri & North Arkansas railroad today had in its records contradictory testimony on almost every occurrence referred to by both citizens and strikers.

The strikers' side of the case was presented at Little Rock, where more than forty witnesses appeared, many testifying they had been driven from their homes.

ARKANSAS LYNCH INQUIRY BLOCKED BY RAILROADS

Chicago Defender
3-10-23

American Civil Liberties Union Prods Governor to Seek Lynchers of White Men

New York, N. Y., March 9.—Investigation by the Arkansas legislature into the lynchings of E. C. Gregor, a railroad striker, at Harrison on January 15, has been sidetracked by officials of the Missouri and North Arkansas railroad, according to charges made by the American Civil Liberties union in a letter to Governor Thomas C. McRae, signed by Roger N. Baldwin, director, and Harry F. Ward, chairman.

Block Inquiry

The officers of the Civil Liberties union, who have been in touch with the situation through their correspondents in Arkansas, offer "to render any assistance possible to the authorities of the state in restoring civil rights in the affected district and in bringing to justice the perpetrators of these outrages." They charge that "sinister influences are at work to prevent anything being done in the future," and maintain that the Ku Klux Klan has "endeavored through secret channels to prevent any effective public investigation being made."

"Is it not true," the Civil Liberties communication asks of Governor McRae, "that you, as governor, have refused to protect railroad strikers driven out of Harrison and surrounding territory who have asked you for protection in order that they may return to their homes?" Only those men who have submitted to the dictation of J. C. Murray, manager of the Missouri and North Arkansas railway, "virtually abandoning their labor connections and agreeing to go back on non-union conditions," have been permitted to return, the officers charge.

N Y C SUN
MARCH 2, 1923

8 Prominent Men Named In Rail Strike Lynching

LITTLE ROCK, Ark., March 2.—The names of eight prominent men, implicated in the lynching of E. C. Gregor during the strike riots at Harrison in January, were given to the legislative investigating committee in a statement presented by the victim's widow.

Mrs. Gregor, who was unable to appear before the committee, offered a lengthy typewritten statement in which she named members of the mob that took Gregor from his home a few hours before his body was found hanging from a railroad trestle.

LYNCHING CASES CALLED.

Eight Men Charged With Lynching Texarkana Negro to Face Trial.

TEXARKANA, Ark., June 5.—The United States court for Miller County, Ark., for the federal district annual term, convened today, with Judge James H. McCollum, of Pecos, Texas, presiding. The dockets are heavy and the court probably will be in session several weeks. Among the criminal cases are scheduled for trial, indictments against the eight defendants who are charged with participating in the lynching of Hulen Owens, negro, in May last year. Owens was killed by a mob after it had broken into the county jail and dragged him from his bed where he was suffering from gunshot wounds. After he was dead, the body was burned to ashes in the street near the Union Station. Owen had murdered Dick Choate, an Arkansas side policeman, a few hours before and had been shot and wounded by the dying officers.

District court on the Texas side at Boston, this morning took up the criminal docket and will likely be busy with it for the next two weeks. Of a total of 33 cases on the docket, 25 charge violations of the prohibition laws.

Five Are Held Pending Lynch Probe

New York Herald
6-5-23

EL DORADO, Ark.—Five men are in the county jail here while officers were investigating their alleged connection with the lynching of Edward Brook, by a mob late yesterday near Murphysville, an oil town, ten miles north of here.

LYNCHED MAN'S SISTERS FILE $80,000 SUIT

Colored

LITTLE ROCK, Ark., Nov. 1.—Two suits claiming a total of $80,000 damages as a result of the lynching of John H. Harrison on February 3, 1922, at Malvern, Ark., were filed in United States District Court last Tuesday by Mrs. Callie Henry, and the Misses Martha and Millie Harrison, sisters of the slain man.

One suit was filed against D. S. Bray, former sheriff of Hot Springs county, and his two deputies, W. T. Gamble and S. H. Leiper, and W. T. Cooper, surety on the official's bond. It is alleged that the sheriff and his deputies did not take proper precautions to save the prisoner from the vengeance of the lynchers.

The other suit was brought against Clarence Chamberlain, R. S. Hodges, Leonard Stanley and Ray Galligher who are charged with having formed themselves into a mob "with divers other persons for the purpose of taking the life of John Harrison."

The complaint says that Harrison was arrested without a warrant and held unlawfully, on the day that the killing took place. The Sheriff, it is charged, took Harrison to the station with the avowed purpose of removing him from the scene of excitement, but did not take the precaution he should have.

Officers Show Poor Judgment

According to the complaint the officials showed very poor judgment when they left Harrison in the station in the care of one deputy, when they knew the prisoner was in danger.

Race discrimination was hinted at when it was stated that relatives of Harrison were not permitted the privilege of making bond for him or of offering any other protective measure.

According to the complaint, Lieper offered no resistence when the mob of angry men entered the railroad coach where Harrison was held. The deputy sheriff made no effort to protect Harrison, it is charged, but on the other hand readily permitted him to be dragged about 75 yards down the railroad tracks and there killed.

Two Suits Filed in Arkansas Court as Result of Lynching. Sheriff and Four Mob Members Made Defendants by Sisters of Slain Man.

Little Rock, Ark., Nov. 9—Two suits claiming a total of $30,000 damages as a result of the lynching of John H. Harrison on February 3, 1922, at Malvern, Ark., were filed in United States District Court last Tuesday by Mrs. Callie Henry, and the Misses Martha and Millie Harrison, sisters of the slain man.

One suit was filed against D. S. Bray, former sheriff of Hot Springs county, and his two deputies, W. T. Gamble and S. H. Leiper, and W. T. Cooper, surety on the official's bond. It is alleged that the sheriff and his deputies did not take proper precautions to save the prisoner from the vengeance of the lynchers.

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Believe This Will Tend to Halt Mob Violence.

The sisters of the dead man declare that they are making this fight in the United States Courts with the avowed purpose of creating favorable sentiment against mob violence and also to stimulate a willingness on the part of officials of the law to put forth their best efforts to protect prisoners in accordance with the guarantees of the constitution of the United States as well as that of any state in the union. Various Negro organizations throughout the country are watching the progress of this case with great interest.

4 MALVERN MEN SUED AS MEMBERS OF MOB

Relatives of Lynched Negro Seek $10,000 Damages.

LITTLE ROCK, Ark., Oct. 23—Callie Henry, Millie and Rose Harrison, sisters of John Henry Harrison, negro, lynched by a mob at Malvern, Feb. 3, 1922, today filed suit in federal court here against several well known residnts of Malvern for $10,000 damages. The negro women are now residents of St. Louis.

Clarence Chamberlain, R. S. Hodges, Leonard Stanley and Ray Garlina, alleged members of the mob which killed Harrison, are named as defendants in the suit, which alleges that a large number of persons unknown to the plaintiffs took part in the killing.

The killing occurred at the Missouri Pacific station at Malvern late on the night of Feb. 3, while former Sheriff D. S. Bary of Hot Springs County and a number of deputies were attempting to take the negro to Arkadelphia for safe keeping, following his arrest on charges of annoying and insulting several white women.

The sheriff succeeded in placing the negro on board the Arkadelphia train before his presence was discovered. The mob searched the train, and despite the sheriff's efforts to hide the negro by placing him under a seat, he was discovered and dragged from the train and killed.

Only $100 Each for Mobbing Two Editors Recently

STUTTGART, ARK., Dec. 18—Eleven men, including two justices of the peace, indicted by a special grand jury here last week in connection with an attack upon the editor of the Free Press a local weekly newspaper pleaded guilty late today to rioting and malicious mischief and were fined $100 each.

The defendants also were indicted on charges of assault and battery and aggravated assault, but these charges were dismissed by Circuit Judge Geo. W. Clark. Each defendant was fined $50 on each of the other two charges, a total of $100.

Lynchings — 1923.
Legal Punishment of Lynchers.

Florida.

1354

Arrests to Follow Florida' Lynching

Race Policewoman Chosen in Illinois

9-1-23

JACKSONVILLE, Fla., Aug. 30—Stringent and drastic action is being promised and arrests are expected at any moment, following the brutal lynching of Benjamin Hart, whose bullet riddled body, with hands manacled, was found in a ditch near here.

It is the belief that Hart was innocent of any crime, and a rigid investigation in under way.

It is alleged that a young white girl told her parents that she had been frightened by a "Peeping Tom," who peered in her bedroom as she was preparing to go to bed. It developed Saturday, however, that Hart was at his home ten miles away at the time, and that it was impossible for him to have been the man suspected.

mediate neighborhood. It was believed there were between 25 and 50 in the party.

Arrests to Follow Florida Lynching Of Innocent Negro

The Constitution
Atlanta, Ga.
8-26-23

Jacksonville, Fla.. August 25.—Arrests were promised shortly by Henry Lilienthal, county detective, tonight after an investigation of the lynching last midnight of Ben Hart, negro, whose bullet-riddled body, with the hands manacled, was found in a ditch along King's road, three miles from Jacksonville, after residents had seen several white men pursuing a negro down the road and firing at him. Hart was struck six times by pistol bullets.

Information gathered by investigators today led them to believe that the mob members had lynched an innocent negro.

At 9:30 o'clock last night about ten unmasked men called at Hart's home, told him they were deputy sheriffs and were going to take him to the county jail. They represented, it was said, that the negro was wanted for peeping in a young woman's window. Hart agreed to go readily, saying he was innocent. It developed today that at the time a negro peeped into the window, Hart was at home twelve miles away and that it was impossible for him to have been the one wanted.

Whether the negro was put out of an automobile and told to run for his life or whether he jumped out in an attempt to escape has not been learned. Residents of the vicinity where the lynching occurred saw four men pursuing a negro and shooting. Following them was an automobile and several other cars were in the im-

Lynchings—1923 1355

Legal Punishment of Lynchers

Florida.

12 MOB MEMBERS HELD AFTER STORMING JAIL

Attempted Lynching in Florida Averted by Sheriff

Commercial Appeal

$15,000 BAIL DEMANDED

Memphis Tenn.

Sheriff Identifies Twelve of Those Who Attacked Palatka Jail in Search for Negro—Sheriff Shot in Hand. 3-3-23

(By The Associated Press.)

PALATKA, Fla., March 2.—Warrants were sworn out here late today for twelve men charging them with assault with intent to murder, firing into an occupied dwelling and conspiracy to commit a felony in connection with an attempt early today of a mob to break into the county jail here where Arthur Johnson, negro, alleged slayer of H. C. Cross of Albany, Ga., was believed to have been confined.

The warrants were served on Chesley Fowler, Robert Turner, M. A. Reeves, V. A. Cowan, C. E. Smith, C. L. Acosta, John Baumgartner, W. T. Gore, L. J. Bryan, G. V. O'Neal, Russell White and A. H. Davis. All of the men are employes of the state road department at Gainesville, Fla., and they are said to have been identified by Sheriff P. M. Hagan today, following the arrest of 21 men.

It was announced tonight that those now under arrest will be brought here from Gainesville late tonight or tomorrow morning and will be arraigned in court. Bail of $15,000 has been set.

Sheriff Wounded.

The attack on the jail here today was the third in two years. Sheriff Hagan was shot through the hand atfer he had hit one of the alleged mob leaders on the head with the butt of his pistol.

The sheriff's wife and daughter barely escaped being wounded when the mob of unmasked men riddled the jail with bullets after an unsuccessful attempt to gain entrance in what was believed to have been an attempt to lynch Johnson.

The white men came to the jail at about 1:15 o'clock this morning and knocked on the door. Sheriff Hagan came downstairs and when the opened the door several of tne men poked pistols in his face. The sheriff struck the nearest one to him over the head with his pistol, jumped aside and slammed the door. Immediately the shooting started, 18 shots being fired into the building. One of them struck the sheriff and another hit within six inches of Mrs. Hagan, who had come downstairs. Miss Gertrude Hagan, the sheriff's daughter, looked out of an upstairs window, and a bullet struck within a foot of her. None of the members of the mob spoke.

After firing into the jail the men ran to their waiting automobile and escaped. Sheriff Hagan ran into the street and fired three times at them wth a shotgun. He then telephoned the authorities at Gainesville.

A rope about 70 fett long was found at the jail.

Officers here tonight declined to say whether Johnson was confined in the Palatka jail, but admitted he "came through here Sunday night."

TWELVE ARRESTED IN JAIL ATTACK

Atlanta Constitution

Sheriff of Florida County Shot by Mobsmen Searching for Slayer of Albany, Ga., Man.

3-3-23

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It was announced tonight that those now under arrest will be brought here from Gainesville late tonight or tomorrow morning and will be arraigned in court.

The attack on the jail here today was the third in two years. Sheriff Hagan was shot through the hand after he had hit one of the alleged mob leaders on the head with the butt of his pistol.

ALLEGED MEMBERS OF MOB HELD IN JAIL

Montgomery Advertiser

Thirteen Men Unable to Furnish Bond in Florida Riot Case

3-5-23

(Associated Press)

PALATKA, FLA., March 4.—Thirteen men, alleged to have been members of a mob that stormed the jail here early Friday in an effort to take away Arthur Johnson, negro, alleged slayer of H. C. Cross, of Albany, Ga., the night of February 4, at Gainesville, spent today in the bullet-riddled structure in default of $15,000 bonds.

They will be arraigned at 9 o'clock tomorrow morning in county court before Judge J. C. Calhoun, on charges of assault with itnent to murder, firing into an occupied dwelling and conspiracy to commit a felony.

Several visitors came to see them today, but they were denied admittance. No one has been allowed to visit the men since they were brought to the Putnam county jail late yesterday after having been arrested in Gainesville shortly after the attempt was made to get the negro, resulting in Sheriff P. M. Hagen being shot through the left hand and 18 shots being fired into the jail.

Friday night Johnson was spirited away from the jail in an automobile and taken to Jacksonville, where he is confined.

13 MEN ACCUSED OF JAIL ATTACK ON TRIAL FRIDAY

Atlanta Constitution

Palatka, Fla., March 5.—Judge J. C. Calrhoun of the county court today set the trial of the thirteen men, held for their alleged implication in the storming of the Putnam county jail early Friday in an attempt to remove Arthur Johnson, negro, for 10 o'clock Friday morning. 3/6/23

None of the men have been able to furnish the $15,000 bond fixed by Judge Calhoun.

Johnson, who now is confined in the jail at Jacksonville, was accused of the murder at Gainesville, February 24, of H. C. Cross, of Albany, Ga., an employee of the state road department. Several of those held in the Putnam county jail on three charges in connection with the storming of the jail are road employees.

12 CHARGED WITH ATTEMPT TO LYNCH

Pittsburg American

Pittsburg, Pa.

3/9/23

(By The Associated Negro Press)

PALATKA, Fla., March 9.—Warrants were sworn out here late today for twelve men charging them with assault with intent to murder, firing into an occupied dwelling and conspiracy to commit a felony in connection with an attempt of a mob to break into the county jail here where Arthur Johnson, colored, alleged slayer of H. O. Cross of Albany, Ga., was believed to be confined. All of the men are employes of the state road department maintenance camp at Gainesville, Fla. Thev are white.

NINE MEN BOUND OVER

Montgomery Advertiser

Four Alleged Members of Florida Mob Are Released

(Associated Press) 3/10/23

PALATKA, FLA., March 9.—Nine of the thirteen men held in jail here in connection with the attack on the Putnam county jail early March 2 in an attmept to get Arthur Johnson, negro, alleged slayer of H. C. Cross, of Albany, Ga., late today were held over to the grand jury at the spring term of circuit court at their preliminary hearing before Judge J. C. Calhoun, in the county court.

Judge Calhoun said there was no evidence to connect the other four men with the mob and they were dismissed.

Bond for the nine men bound over was fixed at $3.000 each

RAILROAD SUED FOR $30,000 BY PULLMAN PORTER

Cleveland 8-25-23

8-25-23

George Blair Seeks Damages for Injuries Inflicted by Florida Lynch Mob

Chicago, Ill.

New York, Aug. 24.—Because a mob bent on lynching dragged a man from a passenger train on the Seaboard Air Line railroad and then released him upon discovering that he was the wrong victim, a $30,000 damage suit has been filed against the road by George G. Blair, a Pullman porter, living at 132 West 139th St., through Attorneys David M. Fink and Jacquin Frank, 41 Park Row. Blair was the victim.



George Blair

At Waldo, Fla., he was forcibly taken from a Pullman car Jan. 21 by a mob of white men, who accused him of insulting two women of their race. Just before it was too late the members of the mob discovered that Blair was not the right man and released him.

According to the story Blair told his attorneys in affidavit form for filing in the supreme court, his train stopped at Plant City, Fla., and two white women boarded his car without Pullman tickets and he asked them to have seats until the conductor came through to assign them to berths.

He heard no more of the incident until the train was halted at Waldo, not a scheduled stop. There Blair was forced off the train into the arms of the waiting mob. He related his experience to a Defender representative shortly after he arrived home.

He is asking damages against the railroad because, he declares, his right hand is badly wrenched and will never be straight again and that he suffers mental anguish caused by his fear of being burned and riddled with bullets.

Blair is an ex-service man and served in the Buffalo division in France with the A. E. F. According to his attorneys, the case is going to be prosecuted with the utmost vigor.

COLORED PULLMAN CONDUCTOR SUES R. R. FOR ATTEMPTED LYNCHING IN FLORIDA

The Guardian

New York, N. Y., Aug. 16, 1923.—Papers served this week on the Seaboard Air Line R. R. Company by Attorneys David M. Fink and Jacquin Frank, 41 Park Row, representing George G. Blair, 132 West 139th street a Colored Pullman conductor, who is suing for $30,000 damages, alleges that Blair was forcibly taken from a Pullman car at Waldo, Fla., January 21 last, by a mob of white men, roughly handled, and nearly lynched before it was discovered he was the wrong man, and that it was another Colored man on the train who had been accused of using insulting words to two white women.

1385

Lynchings—1923. Georgia.
Legal Punishment of Lynchers. 1358

OFFICERS FACE TRIAL ON LYNCHING CHARGE

Atlanta Constitution

Hinesville, Ga., February 9.—Trial of the Jesup chief of police, I. W. Rhoden; Deputy Sheriff J. T. Tyre and two Jesup citizens, Dock Rhoden and Bob L. Price, on a charge of murder, in connection with the lynching of two negroes, Joe Jordan and James Harney, both held under an assault charge, is scheduled to take place during the week beginning February 19, it was announced here this morning. 2/10/23

The case, involving officials of the county and town, is an unusual one. Jordan and Harney, both awaiting final outcome of their case, were being returned to Savannah after their trial in Jesup, under the charge of assault. Both negroes declared their innocence. During their return journey to Savannah, the negroes were lynched. The above named officers and citizens are accused of complicity in the lynching.

The case will be tried before Judge Walter W. Sheppard, and will be prosecuted by J. Saxton Daniels.

WITNESS TESTIFIES AGAINST SHERIFF IN HINESVILLE CT.

Savannah Tribune

MRS. MAGGETT STAR WITNESS FOR STATE

Savannah Tribune

Hinesville, Ga., March 7 (Special Correspondence to the Associated Negro Press).—"Why do Colored people leave the South?" 3-10-23

Here is a good part of the answer!

"If the people want to lynch 'em, let 'em come on to the jail and get 'em."

Mrs. Vera Maggett, white, probation officer, declares those were the exact words of Sheriff Tyre, prior to the lynching of Joe Jordan and James Harvey, Colored.

Sheriff Tyre, Carl Stewart, Bob Price, I. W. Rhoden and Dock Rhoden, all white, were on trial for murder. The court directed a verdict of not guilty in the case of Price. Each of the other alleged lynchers took the witness stand in their own behalf. It took the honorable jury the period of ten minutes to reach a verdict.

"I have been a target of those two Negroes long enough," Sheriff Tyre was quoted by Mrs. Magett as saying. "If the people want to lynch them, let them come on to jail and get 'em."

Mrs. Magett further quoted the sheriff as predicting the lynching if another respite was granted the two men by Governor Hardwick.

Morrison Thomas told of his interview with Carl Stewart and Price at the railroad station and that he jokingly asked them where were they going. They replied seriously, he said, that "we are going to the lynching," he quoted Stewart.

The witness stated that there were numerous rumors heard about Jesup that night fixing the time at 10 o'clock.

The witness was later recalled to the stand to tell of his interview with Sheriff Tyre at the postoffice on the day following the lynching. Thomas said Tyre received a package postmarked from Savannah, which he asked him (Thomas) to open. This, the witness said, he did and discovered that the package contained a revolver. Sheriff Tyre then explained to him that the revolver was taken from him by the mob which met them between Hinesville and Savannah, and lynched the two men.

At the conclusion of Mrs. Magett's testimony the state rested its case.

The state introduced as evidence a photograph of men hanging to a tree. The photograph was passed around the jury box. Shortly after this Juror Johnson became ill and had to be taken out of the jury box for medical reatment. He soon recovered and the case progressed.

An affidavit from T. L. Stewart, of esup, was read, in which it was showr that Judge Highsmith, of that place had refused to sign an order releasing the Negroes to be taken to Savannah fearing that they would be lynched.

Baxton Martin, telephone operator at Hinesville, testified that Sheriff Tyre called up Jesup on the night of the lynching and reported to Sheriff Rogers' wife tha tthe men had been taken from him and lynched.

SAYS SHERIFF INVITED MOB TO JAIL FOR PRISONERS.

Dallas Express
Dallas, Texas

Hinesville, Ga., March 9.—"Why do Colored people leave the South?"

Here is a good part of the answer: 3/10/23

"If the people want to lynch 'em, let 'em come on to the jail and get 'em." words of Sheriff Tyre, prior to the lynching of Joe Jordon and James Harvey, Colored.

Sheriff Tyre, Carl Stewart, Bob Price, I. W. Rhoden, and Dock Rhoden, all white, were on trial for murder. The court directed a verdict of not guilty in the case of Price. Each of the other alleged lynchers took the witness stand in their own behalf. It took the honorable jury the period of ten minutes to reach a verdict.

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GEORGIA SHERIFF'S ATTITUDE EXPOSED IN OPEN COURT

Atlanta Journal
3-10-23

(By Associated Negro Press)

HINESVILLE, Ga., March 4.—"Why do colored people leave the South?"

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Mrs. Vera Magett, white, probation officer, declares those were the exact words of Sheriff Tyre, prior to the lynching of Joe Jordon and James Harvey, colored.

Sheriff Tyre, Carl Stewart, Bob Price, I. W. Rhoden and Dock Rhoden, all white, were on trial for murder. The court directed a verdict of not guilty in the case of Price. Each of the other alleged lynchers took the witness stand in their own behalf. It took the honorable jury the period of ten minutes to reach a verdict.

"I have been the target for those two Negroes long enough," Sheriff Tyre was qutoed by Mrs. Magett as saying. "If the people want to lynch them, let them come on to the jail and get 'em."

Mrs. Magett further quoted the sheriff as predicting the lynching if another respite was granted the two men by Governor Hardwick.

Morrison Thomas told of his interview with Carl Stewart and Price at the railroad station and that he jokingly asked them where they were going. The replied seriously, he said, that "we are going to the lynching," he quoted Stewart.

The witness stated that there were numerous rumors heard about Jesup that night fixing the time at 10 o'clock.

The witness was later recalled to the stand to tell of his interview with Sheriff Tyre at the postoffice on the day following the lynching. Thomas said Tyre received a package postmarked from Savannah, which he asked him (Thomas) to open. This, the witness said, he did, and discovered that the package contained a revolver. Sheriff Tyre then explained to him that the revolver was taken from him by the mob which met them between Hinesville and Savannah, and lynched the two men.

At the conclusion of Mrs. Magett's testimony the state rested its case.

The state introduced as evidence a photograph of men hanging to a tree. The photograph was passed around in the jury box. Shortly after this Juror Johnson became ill and had to be taken out of the jury box for medical treatment. He soon recovered and the case progressed.

An affidavit from T. L. Stewart, of Jesup, was read, in which it was shown that Judge Highsmith, of that place, had refused to sign an order releasing the Negroes to be taken to Savannah, fearing that they wuold be lynched.

Baxton Martin, telephone operator at Hinesville, testified that Sheriff Tyre called up Jesup on the night of the lynching and reported to Sheriff Rogers' wife that the men had been taken from him and lynched.

1358

TRIAL OFFICERS AND CITIZENS LYNCHING CASE BEGINS TODAY

SAVANNAH, GA.
FEB 22 1923

STATE WILL ATTEMPT TO PROVE SAVANNAHIANS INTERCEPTED OFFICERS BY ARRANGEMENT—SAVANNAH ATTORNEY IN CASE—NEGROES WERE BEING BROUGHT TO SAVANNAH — TWO RHODENS, TYRE, STEWART AND PRICE ON TRIAL.

(By C. M. Brewton, Press Correspondent.)

HINESVILLE, Ga., Feb. 22.—Trial for murder, in connection with the lynching of two negroes, James Harvey and Joe Jordan last June, involving Chief of Police I. W. Rhoden, Jesup; J. R. Rhoden, deputy sheriff, Wayne county, et al., was scheduled to begin here at 2 o'clock this afternoon in the superior court, Judge Walter W. Sheppard, presiding.

J. Saxton Daniel, solicitor general of this circuit declares he would announce he was ready for trial if witnesses he had summoned were here. They seem to be here, and have been since this morning.

It is generally understood that the defendants are ready for trial and anxious to have the case disposed of at this time.

There has been no announcement as yet as to attorneys in the case, but it is understood that the state will be represented by the solicitor general, and defense by M. Price of Ludowici, James R. Thomas of Jesup and Edwin A. Cohen of Savannah.

There is quite an array of witnesses for the two sides, being so far as records go 28 for state and 67 for defense.

Those Indicted.

The parties under indictmetn are as follows:

J. R. Tyre ,at time of indictment, deupty sheriff of Wayne county,

I. W. Rhoden, chief of police of Jesup, Ga.

Dock Rhoden, city policeman of the city of Brunswick, Ga., who was at Jesup on vacation at time of the transfer of the two negroes who were later lynched or supposed to be the same negroes.

Carl Stewart, an employe of Dunlevie Lumber Company of Allenhurst, Ga., and Bob Price, also an employe of Dunlevie Lumber Company at Allenhurst, Ga.

These negroes were under death sentence for an assault upon a woman in Wayne county and had secured a respite at the hands of Governor Hardwick. They were being transferred from the county jail at Jesup to the county jail in Savannah. Tyre and two Rhoden officers were in charge of the prisoners and they claim they were intercepted at or near Old Midway Church, in this county, by about sixty men and the prisoners taken away from them and lynched near the Dixie Highway; in fact only about twenty feet from the road.

The officers in charge of the prisoners did not notify the authorities in Jesup until the next morning.

Judge Highsmith of the circuit court, under whose jurisdiction Wayne county comes, is said to have ordered the prisoners held in Jesup and not transferred, as they were supposed to have been an attempt of doing, so therefore the state will endeavor to prove that the officers and other parties conspired to remove the prisoners from jail at Jesup and have them lynched en route to Savannah.

The three officers who were transferring the prisoners had turned back towards Jesup and had gotten about fifteen miles from Midway, where they were supposed to have been intercepted. It was said that they ran out of gasoline in the car which they were driving and hired some negroes to assist them in getting them to Hinesville, where they got gasoline and sent a telephone message informing parties in Jesup of their having lost the prisoners.

Witnesses.

The state has about ten witnesses from Wayne county here, and the defense has quite a number from there also.

Following is a list of witnesses under summons to be here in connection with same:

State Witnesses: H. J. Westberry, Jesup; J. R. Thomas, Jr., Jesup; M. Thomas, Jesup; P. T. Holloway, Jesup; C. C. Cowart, Jesup; M. C. Knight, Jesup; Dan Foxworth, Jesup; D. M. Clark, judge city court Wayne county; T. L. Stewart, Jesup; E. C. Carter, Jesup; W. H. Jones; J. W. Harris; Bob Thompson; Wilson Jones; O. C. Darsey, attorney of Hinesville; W. F. Mills, attorney of Hinesville; E. M. Brewton, attorney of Hinesville; J. G. Ryan, proprietor Hinesville Drug Company; W. F. Way, Hinesville; Jesse Todd; A. C. Todd; Abbott Waite, Hinesville; Henry Rawlings; Walter Bacon; Sam Andrews.

Rush Bacon and Bob Jones, negroes, who assisted officers in obtaining gasoline.

Defense witnesses: T. L. Stewart, R. W. Harris, George Weaver, W. O. Strickland, A. H. Nunn, W. I. Madery, J. M. Harris, S. C. Bennett, W. A. Overstreet, B. H. Thomas, G. M. Townsend, A. S. Poppell, H. B. Johnson, R. L. Freeman, O. W. Bradley, A. L. Yeomans, L. Bennett, M. L. Odum, W. H. Aspinwall, G. W. Tyre, Asa Tyre, F. Jacoba, A. E. Anderson, W. C. Rogers, H. J. Walker, A. G. Horton, E. Newham, Mrs. W. Jones, Bill Porter, Geo. Howard, E. A. Thrower, J. M. Consee, W. A. Bell, J. A. Wheeler, T. D. Carter, E. A. Knight, S. L. Thornton, L. A. Downs, E. L. Cobb, Sol Surrency, Marion Thompson, L. L. Boyt, L. P. Puckett, A. R. Mann, Jas. Steels, Sr., E. E. Grantham, C. C. Cowart, C. A. Spell, J. E. Barnard, Albert Spell, G. L. Madray, J. L. Reddish, Rembert Johns, L. W. Rogers, J. T. McLaughlin, Frank Tyre, J. M. Westberry, S. P. O'Quinn, Lonnie O'Quinn, O. L. Roberson, Jim Ommons, Jim Steele, Jr., W. A. Jones, C. Edenfield, J. C. Knight, W. L. Carter.

Savannah Connection.

The state claims to have evidence tending to show that the same rope which was purchased from a Savannah concern can be identified as the same with which the negroes were lynched, and that parties from Savannah met the car containing the officers with prisoners and the lynching took place.

Of course all this report is from rumors gathered from parties who have been in close contact with the case since its beginning and is tendered for your judgment on same.

Alibi.

Parties are here from Allenhurst, where the sawmill of Dunlevie Lumber Company is located, who will attempt to prove alibi for Stewart and Price, proving that parties worked at mill from about 9 o'clock for rest of night when lynching is supposed to have occurred about midnight, or probably a little earlier.

Lynching
FEB 24 1923

FREE DEFENDANTS IN LYNCHING CASE

Jury Deliberates Only 10 Minutes Before Returning "Not Guilty" Verdict in Hinesville Trial.

Hinesville, Ga., February 23.—A verdict of not guilty was returned by a jury here late this afternoon in the cases of James R. Tyre, Carl Stewart, Bob Price, I. W. Rhoden and Dock Rhoden, who were tried on charges of murder in connection with the lynching of two negroes, Joe Jordan and James Harvey.

The court directed a verdict of not guilty in the case of Price. Each of the other four defendants took the witness stand, their cases closing with no other testimony. The jury was out only ten minutes.

Sensational testimony by Mrs. Vera Magett, juvenile probation officer of Jesup, and Morrison Thomas, also of Jesup, in which Sheriff Tyre was directly involved, featured the hearing of state witnesses during the morning.

"I have been a target for those two negroes long enough," Sheriff Tyre was quoted by Mrs. Magett as saying. "If the people want to lynch them, let them come on to the jail and get 'em."

Mrs. Magett further quoted the sheriff as predicting the lynching if another respite was granted the two negroes by Governor Hardwick.

Morrison Thomas told of his interview with Carl Stewart on the night of the lynching. He said he met Stewart and Price at the railroad station and that he jokingly asked them where they were going. They replied seriously, he said, that "we are going to the lynching," he quoted Stewart.

Lynching Predicted.

The witness stated that there were numerous rumors heard about Jesup that night, predicting a lynching and fixing the time at 10 o'clock.

The witness was later recalled to the stand to tell of his interview with Sheriff Tyre at the postoffice on the day following the lynching. Thomas said Tyre received a package post-marked from Savannah, which he asked him (Thomas) to open. This, he witness said, he did, and discovered that the package contained a revolver. Sheriff Tyre then explained to him that the revolver was taken from him by the mob which met them between Hinesville and Savannah, and lynched the two negroes.

At the conclusion of Mrs. Magett's testimony the state rested its case.

This afternoon the defense began taking testimony.

During the morning the state introduced as evidence a photograph of the negroes hanging to a tree. The photograph was passed around in the jury box. Shortly after this Juror Johnson became ill and had to be taken out of the jury box for medical treatment. He soon recovered and the case progressed.

An affidavit from T. L. Stewart, of Jesup, was read, in which it was shown that Judge Highsmith, of that place, had refused to sign an order releasing the negroes to be taken to Savannah, fearing that they would be lynched.

Baxton Martin, telephone operator at Hinesville, testified that Sheriff Tyre called up Jesup on the night of the lynching and reported to Sheriff Rogers' wife that the negroes had been taken from him and lynched.

Defense Rests.

Depending only upon the statements of the four defendants, the defense rested their case at the completion of their testimony this afternoon.

All four of the defendants made practically the same statement. Deputy Sheriff Tyre, the first to testify, told of leaving Jesup with the two negroes, and starting on his trip to Savannah via automobile. At the fork of "some road," he said, they were stopped by an automobile, parked across the road, with the lights burning.

"One man did all the talking," Sheriff Tyre said. "We were told to hand over the two negroes, go on back to Jesup and keep our mouths shut.

"We started back to Jesup after they took the negroes, and lost our way. Then we ran out of gasoline. I paid a negro to get us some gasoline, and finally we reached Hinesville. I then called up Jesup and reported the affair."

Stewart, an employee of a lumber company at Allenhurst, did not deny seeing young Thomas at the railroad station, but stated that he was on his way to work and did not know of the lynching until the following night.

The other two defendants confirmed Deputy Sheriff Tyre's testimony.

The case was started at 2:45 o'clock yesterday and at 4 o'clock the state and defense had selected eleven jurors, but had exhausted the panel of veniremen. Another panel was quickly made up, but it was not until 8 o'clock last evening that the twelfth juror was selected. He was R. C. Ray, a farmer.

The state began choosing witnesses from a total of 110 last night. When court recessed at 10 o'clock only eight had been heard. The state continued with its witnesses this morning.

The complete list of jurors, as finally selected, includes eleven farmers and one salesmen. They are: Sam Rowe, W. E. Stafford, C. E. May, E. H. Johnson, W. H. Jones, Jr., F. J. Motley, Addin Sapp, R. J. Clark, J. L. Crawley, J. J. Ray, James Hook and R. C. Ray. Jones is the only man not a farmer.

Lynchings—1923
Legal Punishment of Lynchers.

1359 Georgia.

JURY NEEDED ONLY 15 MINUTES

TO DECIDE UPON FREEDOM FOR DEFENDANTS IN LYNCHING CASE

FEB 24 1923

SAVANNAH, GA., Press

Tyre, Stewart and Two Rhodens Dismissed on Murder Charge—Four Hours Oratory Heard By Jury—Divided Evidence in Case—Judge Sheppard Makes Excellent Charge.

(By R. H. Brewton,
Press Correspondent.)

HINESVILLE, Ga., Feb. 24.—After a brief deliberation of fifteen minutes, the jury here trying the case charging murder against I. W. Rhoden, Jesup chief of police; J. R. Tyre, deputy sheriff of Wayne county; Doc Rhoden, city policeman at Brunswick, and Carl Stewart of Allenhurst, in connection with the lynching last June of two negroes, Joe Jordan and James Harvey, returned a verdict of not guilty.

Thanked.

With the announcement of the verdict by the jury, the four defendants and their friends crowded around the jury box, exchanging felicitations and expressing their appreciation for the verdict.

The case consumed two days in trial. Four hours' oratory preceded the deliberation of the jury. Judge Walter W. Sheppard began his charge at 4:45 o'clock and gave a very complete and explicit explanation of murder, conspiracy and circumstantial evidence. The jury took the case at 5:15 and at 5:30 had returned their verdict.

Mrs. Magette.

Mrs. Vera Magette, juvenile probation officer of Wayne county, testifying that the negroes of Wayne county raised a fund for the prosecution of the lynchers of the negroes, and she spent some time on the stand. She stated that Jas. R. Thomas, then counsel for the negroes, and now counsel for defense of officers undergoing trial, urged her to make a trip to Brunswick in the negroes' behalf, which she did. Upon being questioned by Mr. Price, leading counsel for the defense, she stated that Mr. Thomas was not her "boss:" in fact, she had no boss, that even her husband was not "boss" at her home.

She also stated that she was 45 years old and mother of two daughters. She was talking with Sheriff Rogers with reference to this case of negroes getting a new trial and the sheriff told her that at this case kept hanging without being wound up and the negroes were lynched or met with violence, she would be to blame for it, on account of her activity: that he (the sheriff) said he had put himself up as a target in these negroes behalf his last time, and if the people of the county wanted to lynch these negroes they could go to the jail and get them.

Jones.

Bob Jones and Rush Bacon, two negroes living about three miles from Hinesville, testified as to the officers running out of gasoline close to their homes and being taken to Hinesville to obtain a supply. One of the negroes noticed that one of the officers had a holster but no pistol. The officers came to their house just before daylight.

A. B. Brewer, dealer in gasoline and oils of Hinesville, identified Rhoden as one of the parties coming to his place for gasoline.

Braxton Martin, telephone operator of the Hinesville exchange, testified as o Tyre telephoning to Jesup trying to alk to Sheriff Rogers; being told he was in Savannah, told Mrs. Rogers hat the negroes were taken from hem and he did not know what had been done with them. Also that their guns had been taken from them.

Pistols Returned.

Jas. R. Thomas, Jr., recalled, testified that the sheriff got home on the Atantic Coast Line train 21 Saturday afternoon: that the sheriff went to the postoffice and obtained a parcel post package and called to Thomas, telling him he understood that the officer's guns had been reported taken and there was a package he wanted opened. Thomes opened the package and found the guns as suggested by the sheriff, package bearing Savannah postmark, but not being insured, address, typewritten.

Morrison Thomas of Jesup testified that he had a conversation with Carl Stewart on night lynching took place, Stewart being at Jesup Station preparing to board a train with ticket to Allenhurst, and he asked Stewart if he was going to the lynching and Stewart said yes, come along with us, and Stewart and Bob Price got on the train and left. At this juncture Judge Sheppard inquired why such questions were being asked around and the witness replied that there were frequent rumors around town that the negroes would be lynched that night about 10 o'clock. He knew Rhoden and Tyre left with the prisoners. He heard conversation between Tyre and other parties the day before when Tyre said the yellow negro (one of the prisoners) said Tyre and others were stealing his life.

W. F. Way, coroner, identified the paper introduced as evidence as the same verdict they found and returns made at time of lynching, also said they found a note on a stick nearby, but was not allowed to state what the note contained.

The defense objected to coroner's verdict being introduced as evidence, but the judge overrued and admitted the evidence.

H. J. Westberry testified that he saw no signs of any violence that day, was prevailed upon to help lynch negroes, but would have no part in it. He brought Woofter, inter-racial committee representative, to Liberty county to see about the case. Woofter left Hinesville Tuesday, Westberry carrying him to Jesup and has not been seen since.

The defendants made their statements late yesterday. Tyre and two Rhodens made practically the same statement, saying they did all in their power to protect the prisoners and they were taken away from them and that they did not know what was done with them. They turned around and got lost, ran out of gasoline, but finally got back to Jesup without their prisoners and without their guns.

Stewart stated he went to Allenhurst that night and spent the night at Allenhurst and knew nothing of the lynching nor did he know anything about it until next night. He said he would not deny Thomas statements about him, but he did not have anything to do with the lynching.

The defense then rested.

SAVANNAH NEGRO TO HANG

Man Saved From Mob, Gets Speedy Trial and Conviction.

SAVANNAH, Ga., June 28.—Walter Lee, negro charged with attacking a white woman on Monday of last week, was found guilty here today and sentenced to be hanged August 3. Judge Meldrim stated from the bench that the law had been vindicated in the speedy trial and conviction of the defendant.

When Lee was captured and incarcerated in the Chatham County jail, a mob made an attempt to storm the jail and take the prisoner. In the trouble that ensued one man was killed and another had his arm shot off. Martial law was declared and remained in effect for several days.

Lee was brought from the jail to the courthouse under guard of Sheriff Dixon, his deputies and the county police force. He was moved early this morning before the city was stirring,

Convicted
Negro executed
6/29/23

LEE FOUND GUILTY AND IS SENTENCED HANG AUG. 3rd

1359

SAVANNAH, GA., Press JUN 28 1923

NEGRO QUICKLY CONDEMNED BY JURYMEN TODAY

PERFECT ORDER IN CROWDED COURT ROOM DURING COURSE TRIAL.

Walter Lee, negro, accused of assaulting a woman on June 18, must hang for his crime.

This was decided by a jury in the superior court this morning which deliberated about twenty minutes before returning a verdict of guilty Judge Meldrim, accordingly, sentenced Lee to be hung on Friday, August 3

The trial was remarkable in the history of the courts of Savannah Judge, Meldrim did not require that the court room be cleared and, indeed, this course was more than justified by the absolute order that was maintained by the great throng of spectators which packed th eplace where the trial was held.

Story of Crime.

The story of the crime as related by various witnesses pointed most conclusively to Lee, who is short of statue and very black as the guilty party, but even when the victim of the attack came into the court room with her eyes and face blackened and bruised from the brutal blows which had been rained upon her by her assailant there was no word from the men, though there came a tenseness on the faces of those who stood silently and heard the particulars of the tragedy which showed the emotions of the crowd.

Walter C. Hartridge, solicitor general, prosecuted the case, assisted by Walter H. Donahue and Stephen N. Elliott. Attorney Robert L. Colding, N. J. Norman and H. P. Cobb, appointed by the court, conducted the defense. Mr. Norman, who argued the case before the jury, took the position that Lee, from a statement made by a negro witness, must have been crazy at the time the crime was committed, and in substantiation of this he pointed to the fact that James Andrews, colored, had seen the defendant beating the bushes with a stick and, upon asking him if he was looking for snakes, the defendant showed his teeth at him. The man was later found beneath his victim's house and asked about mad dog when he was questioned what he was doing on the premises.

Mr. Hartridge, however, had anticipated this move and he argued that the acts of Lee both before and after the crime were not those of an insane person.

Lee on the stand made a brief statement. He denied having seen Andrews and said he was at his sister's house on Grapevine avenue on the day the crime was committed. The sister, however, was afterward placed on the stand and stated under oath Lee had not been to her home since last November until the morning of June 19, the day after the assault was committed.

The Man Sentenced.

Judge Meldrim, in passing sentence on Lee, said the dignity of the law had been vindicated by the prompt trial and conviction of the defendant. He thanked the spectators for the order that had been observed in the court room and said it was a splendid tribute to the people of the community that no demonstration had been attempted.

The solicitor general said in his argument that it was to the credit of the black people of the community that there has rarely been a crime of the sort with which Lee was accused committed in this section and that it was also to the credit of the colored witnesses that they had gone forward and told the truth about the case despite the natural bias which might have reasonably been expected to have existed in their minds.

The force of Sheriff M. W. Dixon was augmented by the force from the city court sheriff's office, Jule C. Sipple, the sheriff, holding a strategic position at the head of the main stairway with some of his men. Chief Chapman of the county police force had all of his available men scattered over the court room among the spectators and Deputy Purdy of Mr. Dixon's force sat immediately behind the prisoner. Sheriff Dixon maintained a ceaseless watch throughout the trial, but there was not a single murmur from the spectators during the entire duration of the trial.

An unusual feature of the trial came when the solicitor general formally arraigned the prisoner at the bar at the beginning fo the trial. He read the indictment charging the exact character of the offense and turning to Lee asked: "Will you be tried?"

The defendant nodded his head whereupon Mr. Hartridge said: "May God send you speedy deliverance."

Mr. Hartridge asked the jurors who were obtained from five panels to suppress any feeling which might be aroused from the very nautre of the case and asked they restrain any resentment which might be felt when the details of the case were brought out.

Attorneys Appointed.

Mr. Colding said the attorneys representing the defense were not serving of their own volition. "We were

appointed by the court and have no excuse to offer."

By special request each juror was polled to ascertain if he were related to the prosecuting witness.

The jury was composed as follows: G. T. Smith, Norton Frierson, W. F. Lightborne, H. J. Norton, E. M. Lawton, C. A. G. Bloomquist, Robert Craig, N. J. Balster, P. E. Solomon, E. E. Humphrey, A. W. Vick and Charles E. Best.

The witnesses introduced by the state (there were none for the defense) were respectively, the woman who was attacked; Chief Chapman of the county police force. Sheriff Dixon, E. Simmons, colored; James Andrews, colored; Nellie Green, colored; Eliza Williams, colored; Dr. Exley and County Officer J. H. W. Umbach.

Simmons, the first of the colored witnesses, is a farmer. He told the jury he was plowing almost directly in front of the house in which the woman lived who was assaulted and heard her outcries as she fought her assailant, but that he did not venture to respond because he thought it was a white folks row and did not want to interfere. He finally went to the house when the woman came to the door and beckoned for him.

He testified that the woman's face was blackened and her eye bulging out, while blood trickled from her scalp from the terrific beating the negro brute had administered.

Found Stick.

Mary Spicer, also colored, told she had found the stick Lee had had in his possession when seen just before the attack. Martha McKelvey, another colored witness, said she had seen Lee and spoken to him when he was leaving the vicinity.

Lee on the stand was quite collected. He said he was not guilty of the crime; that he had never seen James Andrews before and had been at his sister's house on Grapevine avtnue the day the crime was committed.

He attempted to trace his movements on June 18, but the entire statement was shattered by Nellie Green, his sister, who said she had not seen the defendant for months prior to the crime. He showed up at her house on June 19.

Brought to Court House.

The negro was brought from the Chatham county jail to the court house early this morning. Before Savannah was stirring, Sheriff Dixon, with his deputies and the members of the county police force, had marched the black from the jail to the sheriff's office in the court house. They reached the court house before 8 o'clock without their movements being generally known.

Lee went to trial within ten days after his capture. He was indicted by the grand jury within less than a week after the time he was lodged in the county jail.

History of Case.

The alleged assault took place on June 18, the woman being cruelly beaten. When news of the crime became known posses of citizens joined the authorities in the search for the black. After his capture an attempt was made to storm the jail and take the prisoner. This was successfully resisted. Martial law was declared and the jail remained under militar

guard for several days.

The victim positively identifies Lee as her assailant.

Georgia Pays $3,390 To Save Colored Lad

The Pittsburgh, Pa.

SAVANNAH, Ga., Aug. 16.—Advice from Adjutant General Charles H. Colquitt to the 118th field artillery headquarters here indicated that the cost to the state of $3,390, incurred by reason of military protection of Walter Lee, assault convict, who was hanged Friday, will be paid promptly.

YOUNG LEE DIED PROTESTING HIS INNOCENTS.

The Pittsburgh Courier

(By The Associated Negro Press)

Savannah, Ga., Aug. 16.—Walter Lee, the 19-year-old colored boy whom the sheriff and national guardsmen saved from a mob June 18th, was hanged August 3rd. Lee was given one of the speediest trials ever known in local courts and while he died protesting his innocence, no appeal was taken. The white woman victim of the assault said she was positive in her identification.

NEGRO IN SAVANNAH HANGED FOR ASSAULT

Savannah, Ga., August 3.—Walter Lee, colored, was hanged here this morning following his conviction of the crime of assault upon a Savannah woman. The crime was committed on June 18. Lee was given a quick trial and convicted. There was no appeal.

Shortly after Lee's arrest a mob attempted to break open Chatham jail and take the prisoner. This was unsuccessful. Lee, who was about 19 years old, said he was innocent. The victim, however, positively identified the man.

Lynchings—1923
Legal Punishment of Lynchers.

Missouri.

1356

1356

FARMER ARRESTED IN LYNCHING INQUIRY

Specifically Charged With Obstructing Law Officer.

Compilation appeal
5-5-23.

COLUMBIA, Mo., May 4.—Hamp Rowland, a farmer, was arrested late today on an indictment returned by the special Boone County grand jury called to investigate the lynching of James Scott, negro, here early Sunday. He was released under $5,000 bond. Rowland is the first of those indicted yesterday to be arrested.

The specific charge against Rowland is that he obstructed an officer of the law in the performance of his duty. Numerous farmers came to Columbia and offered to go on Rowland's bond, which was quickly arranged.

Missouri Contractor Arrested in Lynching

The New York Times
5-3-23

Special to The New York Times.

COLUMBUS, Mo., May 2.—The first arrest in the investigation of the lynching of James T. Scott, a negro, here early Sunday morning, came today when George Markwell, a local contractor, was taken into custody by County officers on a charge of taking into the County Jail implements for use in releasing a prisoner charged with a felony.

The arrest came only a short time before the Special Boone County Grand Jury convened to begin its investigation of the lynching.

Henry Davis, Assistant Attorney General, arrived in Columbia from Jefferson City this morning to assist prosecuting Attorney Hulen in the presentation of evidence to the Grand Jury. He announced he would ask indictment of leaders of the mob which lynched Scott on charges of first degree murder.

FIVE LYNCHERS INDICTED

Kansas City Star
5-4-23

Missouri Grand Jury Acts on Hanging of Negro Last Sunday

COLUMBIA, MO., May 3.—Five indictments returned this afternoon by the special grand jury investigating the lynching of a negro here last Sunday. The names of those indicted were withheld pending their arrest.

OLD EIGHTH SOLDIER IS MOB VICTIM

Records Show James Scott Fought for "Democracy" In Illinois Regiment

Columbia, Mo., May 11.—Five white men, indicted as first degree murderers in connection with the lynching of James Scott, university of Missouri janitor, for an alleged assault on the [illegible]-old daughter of the professor of German literature in the university, H. Almstedt, in the words of the prosecuting attorney of Boone county, Ruby Hulen, are going to be made to "walk the dog."

The entire governmental machinery of the county, aided by the state, and under pressure of hot criticism within and without, has set about to see that the name of the town is vindicated and that the guilty parties are given the punishment they deserve.

Normal-minded citizens now sense the fact that an error was committed in the murder of Scott, a mistake that fastens on this community the blackest crime blotch in its record. Sympathy now goes out to the mother, wife and children of the murdered man.

It was not proved at the inquest that any students of the university took an active part in the lynching.

War War Hero

James Scott had been for many years a resident of this city. He was formerly a member of the regular army of the United States, attached to the Eighth Illinois infantry regiment. He had been decorated for his valor.

His reputation in this town was that of an honest and industrious father. His wife is one of the leading teachers in the local public schools. They were the parents of three children, one a girl of 15. When the mob was accusing him, Scott, pleading his innocence, asked the angry men: "How could I commit a crime like you accuse me of? Don't you know that I am the father of a girl like her?" As the words fell from his lips somebody in the crowd struck him in the mouth.

Suspicion was turned on Scott because of his Charlie Chaplain mustache, the Almstedt girl claiming that her assailant wore one.

The only witness of the affair of the girl being led under the bridge to the railroad tracks was a Race woman. This woman said that she saw the girl standing on the tracks with a Filipino. Stewart's bridge, from which Scott was thrown with a noose about his neck, is a concrete structure used as an automobile thoroughfare. A person on the bridge is easily visible 300 yards away. Yet the girl claimed that she followed the Filipino down off the bridge, unseen by anyone, to the tracks below, where the attempted assault was staged.

Established Alibi

It was at first said that the incident with the girl occurred at 2:30 p. m., but when Scott established an alibi, the time was moved up an hour.

Officers of the law offered no resistance to the mob. Sheriff Brown, who let his deputies hang around while the lynching was going on and the mob was deliberately working its way into the jail, is now sorry he did it. He wishes he had used his guns. When the mob was at the jail the chief of police walked through the crowd and left the scene. A man, apparently in command of local Battery B, came down the street drunk and yelled at a small group: "If you 'niggers' start anything, I'll get machine guns and kill every damned 'nigger' in town."

The Chicago Defender
5-12-23

SIX ARE ARRESTED IN COLUMBIA FOR LYNCHING

One Is Member Of Headquarters Battery, Which Could Not Be Mobilized In Time To Save Scott.

JUDGE EXPECTS TRIALS DURING THE JUNE TERM

Only One Charged With Murder In First Degree. Others With Obstructing An Officer. Out On Bond.

COLUMBIA, Mo., May 9.—Six men have been arrested here accused in indictments of having participated in the lynching of James T. Scott, on the morning of April 29. Judge Gantt, who is sitting in the Circuit Court, said that while it would be impossible to set the case for the present term of court, because of the crowded condition of the docket, it was probable that all would be set for the June term, which begins June 18.

Batteryman Arrested

Elmer Woods, one of the men arrested on a charge of obstructing an officer, is a member of Headquarters Battery, 128 Field Artillery, which was ordered out to suppress the mob, but which could not be mobilized in time to prevent the lynching.

Other men taken into custody were Hamp H. Rowland, a farmer; Estill Davis, the son of a contractor; Geo. Barkwell, a contractor and two others.

The only first degree murder indictment returned by the grand jury was against Barkwell. He is at liberty on a $20,000 bond. The other men gave bond for $5,000 each.

N Y C MAIL
JULY 13, 1923

SCORES ACQUITTAL IN LYNCHING CASE

Convictions Would End Evil, Says St. Louis Congressman.

St. Louis, Mo., Today.—The acquittal yesterday of George W. Barkwell, tried at Columbia Mo., on a charge of murder in connection with the lynching of James Scott, negro, was expetced by Congressman Leonidas C. Dyer, of St. Louis, author of the anti-lynching bill brought before Congress.

"It furnishes more evidence of the failure to punish mob violence," said Mr. Dyer, "especially in cases of negro lynchings. It is a failure to give equal protection guaranteed by the fourteenth amendment of the United States constitution.

"The case furnishes additional evidence for the necessity of passing a congressional bill to punish mob violence," Mr. Dyer asserted predicting convictions if such cases were tried in the federal courts and asserting convictions would soon end lynchings.

Mr. Dyer said 3,824 lynchings had been recorded during the last thirty five years with scarcely a conviction.

N Y C TELEGRAM
JULY 13, 1923

LYNCH TRIALS HALT AS JURY FREES ONE

Case of Lynchers Postponed to June

Pittsburgh Courier
5-19-23

COLUMBIA, Mo., May 17.—The cases of five men, arrested in connection with the lynching of James Scott, colored janitor, here, April 26th, were continued here last week until the June term of the Boone Circuit Court. Four of the men are charged with obstructing an officer and the fifth is charged with first degree murder. The prosecution asked for the continuance. 5-19-23.

Prosecutions at Standstill When First of Alleged Mob Members Is Acquitted.

COLUMBIA, Mo., Friday.—With the acquittal here in Circuit Court of George Barkwell, charged with murder in connection with the lynching on April 29 of James T. Scott, negro, accused of an attempted assault upon a fourteen-year-old white girl and with the dismissal of another case arising from the lynching continuance of three others, prosecutions were at a standstill today. Barkwell was alleged by the State to have tied a rope around Scott's neck and to have pushed him over a rail on a bridge here.

Ruby N. Hulen, prosecuting attorney, expressed belief that the prosecution might prove a warning against transgression of the law.

The case against H. H. Rowland, one of the four men charged with obstructing an officer in connection with the lynching, was dismissed on the State's mation. The cases against Estill Davis, Marvin Jacobs and Elmer Woods, charged with the same offence, were continued until the October term of the Curcut Court here.

Barkwell Comes Clear In Negro Lynching Trial

Courier 7-15-23

COLUMBIA, Mo., July 13.—George Barkwell was found not guilty of murder by a jury which tried him on a charge of lynching James T. Scott, negro, here April 29. The verdict was returned late today after the jury had been out 11 minutes.

HARD TO GET MOB JURY.

COLUMBIA, Mo., July 9.—Admissions of prejudice in which under certain conditions caused several men to be excused from the panel being selected here to try C. Barkwell, charged with murder in connection with the lynching of James T. Scott, negro, the morning of April 29, only one of the first five talesmen declared that he was neither prejudiced in the case nor believed mob law justified. Two of them were frankly in favor of mob law under certain conditions.

Appeal Intelligencer
7-10-23

N Y C POST
JULY 9, 1923

Alleged Lyncher to Be Tried

COLUMBIA, Mo., July 9.—George Barkwell, contractor, to-day faces trial for murder in connection with the lynching of James Scott, University of Missouri janitor, who was hanged after he was charged with attacking a girl. Four others charged with minor offences in connection with the death of the negro also are to be tried during the present term of court.

All Accused in Columbia Lynching Now At Liberty

Associated Negro Press.

COLUMBIA, Mo., Aug. 3.—All of the white men accused of participating in the now famed 20th of April last lynching are now at liberty, the State failing to make a case against them, according to the verdicts of the several juries who heard the cases. The prosecuting attorney declares, however, that the bringing of these men to trial will serve as a warning to disposed lynchers in the future.

DISMISS MISSOURI LYNCHING CHARGE

Associated Press Report.

COLUMBIA, Mo., July 12.—Within an hour after the verdict of "not guilty" was returned in the murder case against George Barkwell first of Columbia five lynching case defendants here late today, Prosecuting Attorney Ruby Hulen, of Boone county, asked dismissal of the indictment against Hamp S. Rowland, indicted at the same time Barkwell was indicted in connection with the hanging of James T. Scott, negro. Rowland was charged with obstructing an officer in connection with the lynching. The charge against Rowland was dismissed. The cases against Elmer Woods, Estill Davis and Marvin Jacobs, the three remaining defendants, all charged with obstructing an officer, were continued indefinitely on agreement between the State and the defense counsel.

Acquits Mob Leader In Eleven Minutes

COLUMBIA, Mo., July 12.—George Barkwell, local contractor, tried on a charge of being ringleader of a mob which on April 29 last, hung James T. Scott, negro, to a bridge, was acquitted by a jury here this afternoon. The acquittal verdict was reached after a deliberation of only 11 minutes.

Four others were indicted with Barkwell on a charge of hanging the negro, who was suspected of an attempted assault on Regina Almstedt, 14 years old, daughter of a professor at the University of Missouri.

TRIAL OF ALLEGED LYNCHER BEGINS

Associated Press Report.

COLUMBIA, Mo., July 9.—Only six vacancies remained tonight on the required panel of 40 from whom the 12 jurors will be chosen to try George W. Barkwell, local building contractor, under indictment for murder in the first degree in connection with the lynching of James Scott, negro, who was hanged by a mob here April 29, last. The remaining six veniremen will be selected tomorrow.

Many of the veniremen failed to qualify on the ground that they believed in mob violence under certain conditions.

Scott was lynched after he had been identified as the man who had attempted to attack a 14-year-old Columbia girl, a daughter of a Missouri university professor.

PROSECUTION HALTS IN LYNCHING CASES

Columbia, Mo., July 13.—With the acquittal here in circuit court yesterday of George Barkwell, charged with murder in connection with the lynching April 29 of James T. Scott, negro, accused of an attempted assault upon a 14-year-old white girl, and with the dismissal of another case arising from the lynching and continuance of three others, prosecutions were at a standstill today. Barkwell was alleged by the state to have tied a rope around Scott's neck and to have pushed him over a rail on a bridge here.

Ruby N. Hulen, prosecuting attorney, expressed belief that the prosecution might prove a warning against transgression of the law.

The case against H. H. Howland one of the four men charged with obstructing justice in connection with the lynching, was dismissed on Hulen's motion. The case against Estille Davis, Marvin Jacobs and Elmer Woods, charged with the same offense, were continued until the October term of the circuit court here.

JULY 9, 1923

Goes on Trial To-day For Murder as Lyncher

Missouri Contractor Accused as One of Mob That Killed College Negro Janitor

COLUMBIA, Mo., July 8 (By The Associated Press).—George Barkwell, a local contractor, will go on trial here to-morrow charged with first degree murder, in connection with the lynching here early Sunday morning, April 29, of James Scott, a negro.

Barkwell, with four other men, was indicted by a grand jury five days after the lynching. The others, M. Marvin Jacobs, Elmer Woods, Estill Davis and H. H. Rowland, are charged with obstructing an officer.

More than 1,500 persons are said to have stormed the jail in taking the negro from his cell. Scott, a janitor at the University of Missouri here, was accused of attempting to attack the fourteen-year-old daughter of a University professor and had been identified by the girl.

CAN'T JAIL A WHITE MAN IN COLUMBIA

Chicago Defender

Columbia, Mo., July 20. After deliberating only 13 minutes a jury in the criminal court here freed George W. Barkwell (white), charged with first degree murder in connection with the lynching of James T. Scott on the night of April 29 last.

The court room, crowded with men who saw Scott swing from the bridge on the fatal night, cheered the verdict. They patted jurors on the back and shouted their approval of the decision. Another case was immediately dismissed and the trials of three charged with obstructing an officer were postponed indefinitely.

Barkwell, ringleader of the mob, according to testimony offered at the trial, seemed sure of acquittal. Throughout the taking of testimony he smiled and seemingly regarded the whole situation as mock procedure. In the selection of the jury close attention was paid to the individual's opinion on mob murder. Several in answer to the prosecutor's question declared they favored "hanging a nigger" without process of law. This brought hearty applause from the spectators, who were threatened by the judge with jail sentences unless they ceased the disorder.

"I saw George Barkwell put the rope around Scott's neck, lift him to the bridge and push him off," was the statement made to the jury by Charles Nutter (white), senior in the school of journalism of the University of Missouri. Sheriff Brown also testified that he encountered Barkwell in the jail corridor, and that he demanded that Scott be turned over to the mob.

Attorney Harris, representing Barkwell, appealed to the jury purely on prejudicial measures, and dramatically went over "the positive identification of Scott" by his alleged victim. He stated Barkwell was just a spectator at the lynching. The girl who was alleged to have been attacked has since signed an affidavit that Scott was not her assailant.

TRIED FOR LYNCHING

Witnesses Say Accused Was Thirty Feet away When Negro Hanged.

COLUMBIA, MO., July 11.—Conflicting testimony as to the alleged connection of George Barkwell, charged with the murder of James T. Scott, negro, here April 29, was a feature in his trial here today. Defense witnesses testified that Barkwell was thirty feet away from the spot where the lynching took place talking with friends at the time Scott was thrown from the bridge to hang. State witness asserted that Barkwell placed the rope around Scott's neck, placed him upon the railing of the bridge and pushed him off backwards.

MISSOURI HALES LYNCHER OF NEGRO INTO COURT FOR TRIAL

One Of James Scott's Lynchers

On Trial For First Degree Murder

Columbia, Mo., July 8.—George Barkwell, a local contractor, will go on trial here tomorrow in connection with lynching here early Sunday morning, April 29, of James Scott, a Negro.

Barkwell, with four other men, was indicted by a grand jury five days after the lynching. The others, M. Marvin, Jacobs, Elmer Woods, Estill Davis and H. H. Rowland, are all charged with ostructing an officer.

More than 1,500 persons are said to have been in the crowd that stormed the jail and took the Negro from his cell. Scott, a janitor at the University of Missouri here, was accused of attempting to attack the 14-year-old daughter of a university professor and had been identified by the girl.

State Will Probe Death Of Janitor

James Scott, Lynched by Drunken Mob in April, After "Positive" Identification by White Girl, Thought Innocent.

Girl Is Brought to "Identify" Another

(Special to The Pittsburgh Courier)

MEXICO, Mo., July 12.—Drunken white hoodlums, their insane passions heightened through the "positive" identification of a young white girl, daughter of a university professor at Columbia, Mo., commited cold-blooded murder on April 20, when they lynched James T. Scott, colored janitor of the school.

This was the rumor current here last week, when authorities began an investigation of the story that the lynching party had the wrong man in the crime and that another perpetrated the alleged attack for which Scott was sent to his death at the end of a hempen rope.

The rumors followed the appearance here last Wednesday of Regina Almstedt, the 14-year-old girl whose identification was so "positive." She accompanied her parents and Prosecuting Attorney Hulen of Columbia who came to look at Ollie Watson, a taxicab driver, who is being held here on a serious charge.

Immediately upon their arrival they proceeded to the jail, where the girl was asked to look at Watson. But the question which the officials refuse to answer is whether or not this girl also "positively" identified Watson as the man who is alleged to have attempted the assault.

Previously Confessed.

And now that the mob's lust has been satisfied, some mighty queer and hitherto unlooked-into angles are bobbing up. Watson, arrested shortly after Scott, was placed in the same cell with the lynched man in the Columbia prison. Watson had been arrested upon the complaint of a colored girl that he had attacked her at about the same time the alleged attack on the white girl occurred.

On the night of April 29, when the mob was attempting to break into the prison to get Scott, the dead man called to the members of the mob that he was innocent of the crime and that Watson, his cellmate had confessed to him that he was the guilty one.

But the bloodthirsty mobbists paid no attention to this plea, or again when it was repeated a moment before Scott was thrown off the bridge which acted as his "scaffold."

Could Have Proven Alibi.

Another circumstance which was not weighed at the time in Scott's favor, but which an investigation has brought to life, was the fact, brought out in the preliminary hearing, that he was seen in the Medical Building at 3 o'clock on the afternoon of the crime wearing white clothes.

The white girl said that she passed the clock tower, which is several hundred feet nearer the bridge than the Medical Building, as the clock was striking 3 o'clock.

It is now argued that for Scott to have changed his clothes, passed the girl and been on the opposite side of the bridge approaching her when she arrived there, was a physical impossibility.

Lynchings—1923. 1367

Legal Punishment of Lynchers.

Missouri.

FIRST OF INDICTED MEN ACQUITTED IN 13 MINUTES

George W. Barkwell, On Trial For Murder In The First Degree, Was Positively Identified By University Student As The Man Who Fastened Rope Around Scott's Neck And Pushed The Colored Man Off Stewart's Bridge On The Night Of April 28.

STATE FAILS TO CONVICT WITH A STRONG CASE

Court House Crowded With Hoodlums Who Try To Intimidate Jurors. Make Noisy Demonstration When A Prospective Juror Would Say He Favored Mob Law. The Judge Threatens Several Times To Throw Them Out. Banquet Arranged Before Acquittal.

COLUMBIA, Mo., July 12.—Georgewell, charged with first degree murder, growing out of the lynching of James T. Scott was taken this morning. At 10:30 a. m., Prosecuting Attorney Ruby Hulen read the indictment and made a statement of facts to the jury. State Senator Harris for the defense recited the crime in detail, out of which the lynching grew. In his statement for the defense, Senator Harris plainly chose the expected course. He appealed to the prejudice of the jurors by referring with emphasis to "heinous crime committed upon a 14 year old white girl—"He dramatically went over 'the positive identification of Scott' by this unfortunate girl;" and stated eventually that they wanted to admit that the defendant was there, but only as a spectator and committed no act.

The Circuit Clerk, under oath, read the record of the Circuit Court of April 28, in which Scott was charged with rape and in which he, through his attorney, waived a preliminary hearing and plead "not guilty."

First Witnesses

The first witness called to the stand was Sheriff Brown. Brown said that the first evidence he had of the mob forming was about 10:45 p. m., on the night of April 28th. He said he was in the jailer's quarters and heard some one on the outside say, "Let's go," and upon coming out of the door of the jailer's residence he saw a small group of men approaching the jail.

He went up to these men and asked them not to do anything they would be sorry of, suggesting that the man be given a trial and then, if proven guilty, they might proceed. They would not hear him and demanded the keys which he would not turn over. The sheriff kept "pleading" and thought "up until the last moment that persuasion would stop the mob." He said he recognized the defendant, Geo. Barkwell, as one of the first to enter that part of the jail where Scott was kept and called out to him by name. He would not testify that he had seen him perform any act, but stated that the small group of men seemed to listen to his suggestion that they listen to an appeal from Acting Circuit Judge Collier, who arrived on the scene about 1:00 p. m., just 20 minutes before Scott was taken. The sheriff was summoned as a witness for the State. When the State had finished its examination, Acting Judge Gant recessed court until 1:30 p. m.

Saw Barkwell Tie Rope

"I saw George Barkwell put the rope around Scott's neck, lift him to the bridge and push him over."—Chas. Nutter.

The above is the climax of the State's evidence this afternoon in the Circuit Court of Boone County. Chas. Nutter is a Senior in the School of Journalism of the Missouri University and was reporting for the Columbia Evening Missourian when the death of Scott occurred.

The cross examination of Sheriff Brown was begun immediately after dinner. He was asked by the defense counsel, if he had any information prior to the mob's appearance and he replied, "None that I thought worth considering."

State Wins Point

Then the attorneys for the defendant began to ask questions directed so as to show how prejudice had been built up to the breaking point. They attempted to introduce newspaper stories and gossip to appeal to the prejudice of the jury. Here the State raised such an objection thru Prosecuting Attorney Hulen and Assistant State Atty. Davis that Judge Gant excused the jury. After arguments, the State won its contention and Judge Gant ruled no testimony admissable that dealt with any details of the crime with which Scott was charged. The sheriff, in direct answer to the question, "How many men and boys were present when you first noticed the mob?" said "About 100." He reiterated that Barkwell was present in the corridor of the jail and seemed to be directing the group and stated that when he finally got his attention he said to his accomplices "Wait a minute girls, let's hear Judge Collier." He stated that after Judge Collier had appealed with no results, he informed them that Gov. Hyde had called him and told him to hold the mob off, until the militia, Battery B, arrived. The answer was, "To hell with Battery B."

Defies Mob

Wilson Hall, deputy sheriff, was the next to be called to the stand. He stated he was not there when the mob formed but came shortly after and took his position at the South door. There was a large crowd and Hamp Rowland, one of the men indicted by the grand jury, pushed him away from the door. He said it was a friendly push and that immediately following, they chatted together until he heard a crowd battering at the West door. Then he went into the jailer's quarters which he occupies and stationed himself at the West door, which is also the entrance to his kitchen. By that time some member of the mob had broken in the window of the door and with his pistol in his hand, he informed them that that was a part of his home and the first man who came in would come in over his dead body. The mob dispersed from that door and went around to the South door where entrance had been gained. He remained there and did not recognize any member of the mob.

Police Testify

Policeman King was next. He testified to having been in the jailer's residence and from the barred door leading out of the jailer's kitchen into the stone compartment of the jail, he said he saw George Barkwell in front of Scott's cell. He did not state that he saw Barkwell do anything. He heard many shouts as "To hell with the law;" "Get the nigger;" "Don't let them out talk you, George," etc. In answer to questions as to whether he expected a mob to be formed, he said "yes."

Wm. Miller, another police officer, said he also saw Barkwell in the corridor of the jail. He said he saw Rowland also.

Judge Testifies in Case

Judge Collier, the regular Judge of the Probate Court, but at that time Acting Judge of the Circuit Court, due to the illness of Judge Harris, was the next witness. He testified in substance as follows:

"I arrived at the scene of the trouble about 12:30 m. I came around the East side of the court house and met only one man. When I came within clear view of the jail, I saw between the jail and the court house about 500 people. I went through the crowd, not recognizing anyone and came to the jailer's residence and gained admittance through the front door. On the inside I saw Sheriff Brown, Policemen King and Miller and deputy sheriff Wilson Hall. Prosecuting Attorney Hulen came in later. As soon as I got in where I could see the sheriff, I heard a noise. He was calling out to the leaders of the mob to let the law take its course. I stepped up to the barred door leading out of the jailer's kitchen into the stone part of the jail where Scott was held, and I saw George Barkwell the defendant two or three feet away. He was closest to me. He was looking into the cell where Scott was. A man by the name of Davis was between him and the cell door and Davis had an electric torch burning the lock on Scott's cell. I could see their faces as the torch flared. Brown called Barkwell's name and Barkwell raised his left hand and asked them to be quiet while I plead with them. It was to no avail. I recognized Barkwell and Rowland. I asked them to let a jury of their own people decide his guilt or innocence. They replied, "to hell with the jury, we are our own jury." I continued, "In the name of the father of the girl, who has been wronged more than any of you, I beg that you give him a fair and impartial trial." To this they replied, "Bring him down here and we'll hang him." After that they proceeded to work and soon had him marching to his death."

Post-Dispatch Reporter

Francis Misselwitz, a Post Dispatch reporter, who was an eye witness to the lynching was next called. He did not know Barkwell, nor did he see him in the jail corridor, but he described the corpulent man who came up while he was talking to Scott on the bridge and stated that while he could not positively identify Barkwell, he "looked like the man."

A Strong Testimony

Next was Chas. Nutter, a student in the department of Journalism of the University of Missouri. He was reporting the news for the Columbia Evening Missourian. He stated that he had lived in Columbia for four years, and that he and Missilwitz of the Post Dispatch were together at the bridge on the night of the lynching. He declared positively, "I was standing in the front of Missilwitz right next to Scott. I would talk to him and then remonstrate with the crowd. Scott was calm and cooly protested his innocence. He prayed and his prayer was the outbreathing of a spirit absolutely innocent. Then he charged Ollie Watson, a Negro who was confined in the same cell with him as having committed the crime and as having confessed to him. Scott further assigned circumstantial evidence for the same.

Accuses Barkwell

Then the defendant, George Barkwell came rushing forth with a one-inch rope. I saw George Barkwell put the rope around Scott's neck, lift him to the railing of the bridge and push him over. I looked down and saw his body clear of the ground and hurried away. In answer to a question of the defense's counsel as to why he didn't tell anyone before he

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COLUMBIA, Mo., July 12.—Georgewell was freed by the jury this afternoon on the charge of murder in the first degree in connection with the lynching of James T. Scott, colored, by a mob here the night of April 28. The jury deliberated only eleven minutes before bringing in the verdict. Another case was dismissed and the trials of three charged with obstructing an officer were postponed indefinitely.

Special to Argus.

COLUMBIA, Mo., July 11.—The Mob Spirit was much in evidence at the beginning of the selecting of a jury for the trial of George Barkwell, charged with first degree murder, growing out of the lynching of James Scott, whom it is now certain, was innocent of any crime.

Crowds were in the Court House, eagerly looking on, and applauding every prospective juror who would declare that he was in favor of mob law. So loud and boisterous was the mob, that the Court had to threaten to clear them out unless they desist in making such demonstrations.

Many are outspoken in their beliefs that no jury would dare convict a white man for "hanging a nigger."

Already preparations are being made to give Barkwell a testimonial banquet following his acquittal which is scheduled to take place Friday night.

First testimony in the case of the State of Missouri vs George Bark

That he told Policeman Pleas King that same night at the Boone Tavern.

Dr. Lloyd Simpson, who made an examination of Scott after his death, was called and gave the lynching as the cause of his death.

The coroner, Ben Baker, was called and verified Dr. Simpson's testimony. Judge Gant then excused the jury from the box and recessed court. This is Wednesday afternoon. Just when the case will reach the jury is hard to tell at this time.

Huge Banquet Prepared For Innocent (?) Man

Jury Deliberates Eleven Minutes in Case of Man Held in Connection With Lynching of James Scott.

Pittsburgh Courier
COURT IN UPROAR
Pittsburgh, Pa.

COLUMBIA, Mo., July 19.—With a banquet arranged for him before the jury brought in its verdict, George W. Barkwell, white, on trial for murder here in the first degree in connection with the lynching of James T. Scott, although positively identified by a university student as the man whose hands adjusted the "death noose," was acquitted here Thursday afternoon. The jury on the case deliberated exactly 11 minutes. 7-21-23

Mob spirit, almost equal to the feeling that swept that mass of hoodlums on the night of April 29, when Scott was hurled to his death from a high bridge, and the outspoken comment that "no white jury will dare to convict a white man for hanging a n——r," marked the high spots of a spectacle which will go down in history as one of the blackest disgraces the state has ever known.

The same disergard for law and order which marked the lynching, characterized the trial and time and again the presiding judge had to threaten to clear the room if their noisy demonstrations were kept up. Every utterance on the part of a white man called for cheering, and during the time of the empanelling of the jury, the trial and the jury's verdict, the ignorance and conceit of the crowd, was plainly in evidence.

Court Dismisses Case

Within an hour after the verdict of "not guilty" was returned against Barkwell, Prosecuting Attorney Ruby Helen, of Boone County, asked Policeman Pleas King that same night at the Boone Tavern."

Nutter's testimony, in most of its details, was substantiated by Sheriff Brown, Policeman King, Policeman Miller and others.

Appeal to Prejudice

The defense attempted to show that Barkwell was merely an onlooker, but the main plea, made by State Senator Harris, for the defense, appealed to the sympathies of the jurors, and their inborn prejudice against the Negro.

In his statement, the Senator plainly chose the expected court. He referred with emphasis to the "heinous crime committed upon a 14-year-old white girl." He dramatically went over the "positive identification" of Scott by this "unfortunate girl" and stated eventually that they wanted to admit that the defendant was there, but merely as a spectator.

Lynched Wrong Man?

Later developments tend to show that the earnest dying pleas of Scott were more than likely true, and that Watson, whom Scott said confessed to him, may be the man guilty. The girl attacked, was taken to see him recently, and it is believed that she also "positively identified" Watson.

Need of Anti-Lynch Bill

The action of the state court in freeing Barkwell, despite the strong chain of evidence against him brings home all the more forcibly the need of an anti-lynching measure, with its penalties, if for no other reason that similar cases would be tried in the Federal courts. Convictions would oftimes be handed down, with the result that lynchings in the United States would soon cease.

Representative Dyer, father of the Anti-lynching Bill, said he was not surprised at the acquittal verdict, saying that if furnished more evidence of the failure to punish mob violence, especially in race lynchings.

Nutter's testimony in part follows:

"I was standing in the front of Missilwitz, a newspaper reporter, right next to Scott. I would talk to him and then remonstrate with the crowd. Scott was calm and cooly protested his innocence. He prayed and his prayer was the outbreathing of a spirit absolutely innocent. Then he charged Ollie Watson, a Negro, who was confined in the same cell with him as having committed the crime and as having confessed to him. Scott further assigned circumstantial evidence for the same.

Accuses Barkwell

"Then the defendant, George Barkwell, came rushing forth with a one-inch rope. I saw Georg Barkwell put the rope around Scott's neck, life him to the railing of the bridge and push him over. I looked down and saw his body clear of the ground and hurried away.

"In answer to a question of the defense's counsel as to why he didn't tell anyone before he told the grand jury, he said he did. That he told dismissal of the indictment against Hamp S. Rowland and the case was taken off the records. The cases against the other men, Elmer Woods, Estill Davis and Marvin Jacobs, were continued indefinitely on agreement between the state and the defense counsel. 7-24-23

State Has Strong Case

Witnesses for the state gave almost conclusive evidence that Barkwell was one of the ringleaders of the mob, and Charles Nuter, a senior in the School of Journalism at the Missouri University, brought the prosecution to a climax when he said:

Pittsburgh Courier

"I saw George Barkwell put the rope around Scott's neck, lift him to the bridge and push him over."

PEORIA ILL. TRANSCRIPT
JULY 18 1923

LYNCHING AND PUBIC OPINION

Almost a week was required to select the jury to try George Barkwell, prominent contractor of Columbia, Missouri, on a charge of murder growing out of the lynching of a Negro in that city on April 29. During the examination of talesmen, an average of forty were questioned each day. More than half this number, it is reported, declared they believed there are times when lynching is justifiable.

The ordinary jury and those summoned for jury service serve as a good cross-section of the mass. If more than half of these summoned are excused because they believe there are occasions whn mob law is ustifiable, or because they have contributed to the defendant's defense fund, it is safe to assume that law and order rests upon a shaky foundation in a community where such a condition prevails.

The paradoxical phase of mob law is that it actually s lawlessness. Still, persons may be found who pose as reputable citizens and who not only will countenance mob law, but justify it.

The results of the jury examination in Columbia are more significant than in many other cities. Columbia is a university town, and its measure of culture is therefore presumed to be higher than many other communities. It was not surprising that ignorant, selfish, arrogant Herrin should whitewash itself after its mob outrage, or that extreme southern cities—where race prejudice rests on grounds of race protection—should be unable to find juries to convict mob leaders. Columbia, however, is a flouriching and progressive community. It should be one of the last cities in the middle west to tolerate lynching or justify it.

The lynching problem cannot be solved as long as prospective jurymen insist upon escaping jury service because of a "personal conviction" on the subject of illegal executions.

Lynchings — 1923.
Legal Punishment of Lynchers.

North Dakota.

1360

$20,000 PAID FAMILY OF WHIPPING VICTIM

Commissioned

Lumber Company Settles the Martin Tabert Claim.

11-24-28

LANGDON, N. D., Nov. 28.—Payment of $20,000 has been made by the Putnam lumber company of Wisconsin to the family of Martin Tabert of Munch, N. D. who died in a convict labor camp conducted by the company in Florida following a flogging given by Walter Higginbotham, "whipping boss."

This payment has been accepted by the Tabert family as settlement of its claim against the lumber company, doing away with any necessity for court action, according to an announcement made today by State's Attorney G. Grimson of Calalier County, who was instrumental in having Higginbotham brought to trial and convicted on a charge of second degree murder, and who has since represented the Tabert family in the negotiations with the Putnam Lumber Company.

The settlement will in no way affect the handling of the case of Higginbotham who has appealed to the Florida supreme court to have the verdict of second degree murder found against him set aside. This appeal will be strongly resisted, Mr. Grimson said.

In a statement made by Benjamin Tabert, father of the flogging victim, the president, directors and other higher officials of the Putnam Lumber Company are exonerated from having any wilful participation, or guilty knowledge of Martin Tabert's death

Lynchings — 1923.
Legal Punishment of Lynchers.

Oklahoma

1361

8 Oklahoma Lynchers After Court Inquiry

(Special to Pittsburgh American)

DUNCAN, OKLA., Dec. 20.—Eight men are in jail here today in connection with the shooting Monday night of A. L. Berch, proprietor of a hotel at Marlow, and his Negro porter, Robert Journegan. No charges have been filed and Stephens county authorities indicated that the men they believe were the leaders of the mob that invaded Berch's hotel in an alleged attempt to lynch Journegan, have not been apprehended. 12-21-23

Marlow citizens resented the Negro's presence in the city in violation of an unwritten rule of years standing that permitted no Negro to remain there overnight.

No trace has been found of Marvin Kincannon, member of a well-known family, sought in connection with the shooting.

W. D. McBee of Stephens County, speaker of the House of the Oklahoma Legislature, advised officials here today that he would come here from Oklahoma City to confer with them relative to seeking state aid in running down the slayers.

Lynchings—1923
Legal Punishment of Lynchers

Virginia.

1362

MAN WILL SERVE TWO YEARS FOR LYNCHING

11/6/23

Conviction Hailed As A New Sense Of Justice In The Southland.

Norfolk Journal and Guide

Norton, Va.—Arising to its task of Sister Florence Boukins filed the pul- for its laws, Virginia has sent to the penitentiary the first man ever convicted in the state for participating in a lynching.

Shayler B. Tate began a two year sentence in the state prison at Richmond last week for the part he played in the lynching of Dave Hurst, Friday, November 20, 1920.

Hurst was charged with assaulting Mrs. Will Ball, an aged white woman, who lived near Kent Junction. He was placed in jail at Wise. Sunday morning following his arrest the jail was stormed by a mob, Hurst taken out and carried to Kent Junction, where he was strung up by his ankles and his body riddled with bullets.

Tate was indicted along with a half hundred others for participating in the affair. When they went to all were freed except L. A. N and the convicted man. On 31, 1921 Tate was convicted pealed the case. The appeal cently refused and the convic and his friends gave up all saving him from paying the

Citizens hereabout hail viction as the harbinger of sense of justice in this secti

Sheriff A. L. Corder and wealth's attorney McCorkle, h highly commended for their s the matter which withstood cient precedent. It was one most spectacular and hardest f trials in the county. Every te cality of the law and human pr dices were appealed to, but the c monwealth was upholding its la which incidently sent to the penitentiary the first white man ever convicted on an indictment charging lynching in the state. Tate has a wife and three children. Napier's case is still pending, but in view of the outcome of Tate's it is confidently believed that he will receive the same fate.

WISE COUNTY MAN MUST SERVE YEAR FOR LEADING MOB

Norfolk Journal and Guide

Lynching Took Place in 1921. Supreme Court Refused to Enterfere in Judgment of the Lower Court. Action is Final.

Norfolk, Va.

ANOTHER MEMBER OF MOB BEGINS TWO YEAR TERM

2/17/23

Special to Journal and Guide

Richmond, Va.—General satisfaction is expressed here over the refusal of Governor Trinkle to pardon A. L. Napier, prominent Wise county man, who is under sentence of one year in the penitentiary for participating in a mob which lynched a Negro in 1921.

Napier presented a strong petition for pardon, although the judge and commonwealth's attorney refused to sign same. He had been granted a stay of execution pending a review of his case by the Virginia Supreme Court of Appeals, which recently declined to interfere.

It was said at the capitol today that the Governor felt that the exercise of clemency in Napier's case might tend to encourage mob violence. Neither the trial judge nor commonwealth's attorney signed the petition for pardon, their position being that the law should be permitted to take its course.

Shaler D. Tate, another alleged member of the mob, who drew a two-year sentence, began serving his sentence several months ago.

WOULD PUNISH PERSONS GUILTY OF MOB MURDERS

Norfolk Journal and Guide

Special Term of Court Called To Institute Investigation Of Lynching Of King and Queen County Victim.

10-20-23

ATTORNEY GENERAL TAKES PROMPT ACTION

Norfolk Journal and Guide

"Those guilty of the lynching are guilty of murder and when brought to justice should be treated according to the severity of the crime."
—Gov. E. Lee Trinkle

10-20-23

The citizens and the press of Virginia are calling for the arrest and conviction of the men guilty of besmirching the escutheon of the State with the first lynching since 1921.

Since 1904 the State has averged one lynching a year excluding the year of 1923, for which there is no official record of a lynching having been pepertrated in Virginia. In fact colored citizens of this state had begun to take pride in the increasing evidence that the State had outgrown the barbarous practice of condemning and killing humans outside of legal processes.

Ten men last week took from the possession of legally constituted authorities of King and Queen county Horace Carter, a middle aged colored man, accused of attempted assault upon a white woman. They constituted themselves judge, jury and executioners and shot the accused to death while he was hand-cuffed with his hands behind him.

A special term of the Circuit Court in King and Queen County has been ordered for next Monday to investigate the lynching. A number of witnesses have been summoned to appear before the grand jury. Governor Trinkle has announced that every effort will be made to apprehend and punish the murderers.

TO INVESTIGATE LYNCHING

St. Louis Argus

Special Term of Court Called Following Killing of Negro

10-19-23

RICHMOND, Va., Oct. 17—A special term of Circuit Court has been ordered in King and Queen County for next Monday to investigate the lynching last week of Horace Carter, a Colored man, it was announced here today. A number of witnesses have been summoned to appear before the grand jury.

High Point, N. C. Enterprise

OCT 18 1923

Virginia to Investigate The Lynching of a Negro

RICHMOND, Va., Oct. [illegible]—A special term of circuit court has been ordered in King and Queen county for next Monday to investigate the lynching last week of Horace Carter, a negro, it was announced here A number of witnesses have been summoned to appear before the grad jury.

Attorney General John R. Saunders and Park Dean, secretary to Governor Trinkle, conferred yesterday with Circuit Judge Claggett B. Jones at King and Queen. Judge Jones is ill and a special judge will be named by Governor Trinkle who has announced that every effort will be made to discover and punish members of the mob.

RICHMOND, VA. Times

OCT 18 1923

To Probe Lynching

DETERMINATION on the part of officials to sift to the very bottom, at a special session of the Circuit Court, all available information in connection with the lynching of a negro in King and Queen County will meet with general approbation throughout the State. Governor Trinkle is reported to be deeply interested in the case, and has said that every effort will be made to vindicate the law this mob so ruthlessly trampled underfoot.

Howard Carter, the negro who was lynched, may have been guilty of the crime with which he was charged. His guilt or innocence, however, has nothing to do with the matter in hand. No mob, anywhere, at any time, in any circumstances, has the right to usurp the functions of government. We have instituted courts to determine the fate of criminals. If Howard Carter had been found guilty in the duly constituted tribunal, justice would have been meted out to him swiftly. When a mob did the negro to death, its members not only committed murder, but, by their action, they held the court in utter contempt.

No wheel ought to be left unturned to bring the men who composed this mob to the bar of justice, there to be dealt with, impartially, according to the degree of their crime. It is due the fair name of Virginia to do this.

Lynchings — 1923.
Legislation Relating to.

1341

WALKER ACTS TO CHECK MOB RULE IN STATE

8-19-23

Confers With Attorney General to Determine Extent of Power to Move Against Lynchers

STIRRED BY DEED IN BIBB

Atlanta, Ga.

Full Authority of State Will Be Exerted to Halt Outrages Is Statement of Governor

Preparatory to taking whatever steps may be necessary "to protect human life, limb and property rights against mob violence in Georgia," Governor Clifford Walker Saturday called upon Attorney General Napier for advice as to what he may legally do in the premises.

The conference between the Governor and the Attorney General had to do particularly with the lynching of a negro in Bibb County Friday morning, and generally with the recent lynchings, floggings and other demonstrations of the mob spirit in other parts of the state.

"I am determined," said the Governor, "that the full power of the executive department of the state government shall be exerted for the enforcement of law; and I have taken up wtih the Attorney General the question of the extent of the executive power to this end."

Attorney General Napier pointed out that, of course, when the local law enforcement authorities find themselves confronted with a situation which is beyond their power to control, and call upon the state for help, the Governor either may declare martial law in the territory affected and apply the military force of the state, or authorize the local authorities to call to their aid posses of civilian citizens or resort to any other means of force that may be necessary.

The Governor has given no intimation what, if anything, he intends to do about the conditions, the existance of which prompted the conference in the executive offices Saturday morning.

ANTI-LYNCHING MEASURE DEBATED IN OPEN FORUM

Congressman L. C. Dyer Presents His Case, In A Masterful Way; While His Opponent, Congressman Harry B. Hawes Makes Poor Showing Before Intelligent Audience

St. Louis Argus

LATTER QUERIED SHARPLY BUT UNABLE TO ANSWER

11-9-23

Hon. L. C. Dyer, member of Congress for the Twelfth Missouri District, made Major Harry B. Hawes in the vernacular, "look like thirty cents in battered nickels" in their debate before the St. Louis Open Forum, on last Saturday evening, at Sheldon Memorial. The discussion was a most interesting one, because of the aggressiveness and eloquence of both gentlemen, as well as because of the importance of the subject, which was as stated on the set programme: "Shall Lynching be made a Crime against the United States Government?" Congressman Dyer, of course, took the affirmative and Hawes the negative. Both men were in splendid voice and both had evidently come to the forensic combat eager to put his side of the question in the best possible light. There was a good attendance, the hall of Sheldon Memorial being almost filled. There were a good many ladies present, and quite a sprinkling of Colored men and women, most of them well known as leaders of their race.

Dyer Impresses Audience

Congressman Dyer made a splendid impression when he was introduced to open the discussion. He made a straightforward argument in support of his proposed measure—the bill which was passed by the last House of Representative, but which died with the session, and which he announced will be promptly introduced on the reassembling of Congress. He evidently recognized the character and caliber of his audience, and quickly placed himself en rapport with them. He resorted to no sort of rostrum claptrap. He stated concisely the general proposition of the Dyer bill, gave condensed statistics as to the more than four thousand lynchings, including burnings at the stake, of both men and women, in the last thirty-five years, and challenged contradiction of any or all of his statements of facts. Then he argued, and produced his proof, that the states had completely failed and fallen down in the matter of punishing persons known to be implicated in these lynchings, and made his clinching and logical conclusion that because of this failure of the states, many of them, to enforce their own laws, they were guilty of violation of the Fourteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution, and that it became necessary for the federal government to step in and take over the matter of according equal protection of law to all citizens. "No one denies that the brutal lynchings have taken place. No one will say that the lynchings are not most heinous crimes against all law. No one will say that these crimes are not primarily, if not entirely aimed at the Negro race, and that they are the fruits of race persecutions; and no one will even pretend to say that the states have make good and sufficient effort to punish the perpetrators of these brutal crimes. I do not believe that even my colleague, Mr. Hawes, will deny any of these propositions."

Mr. Dyer enlarged most earnestly and with the eloquence of sincerity along the lines thus briefly outlined, but was forced to a rather abrupt close by the time limitation of twenty five minutes.

Hawes Misjudges Hearers

Congressman Hawes was immediately introduced. He began his address with a story about a Scotchman and cheap street car fare, but before he had half told his stockhustings joke, he evidently began to realize that he was before the wrong kind of people for such stuff. This placed him at a disadvantage, and he tried to win back lost ground by plunging into a somewhat stereotyped argument along the line of state rights, but using the term, "police power of the states," and pursued the state rights argument through three-fourths of his time then abruptly declared, "But I do not believe in the stale, old, narrow doctrine of state rights," thus completely swallowing the main part of his own argument.

Makes Poor Showing

Hawes did not answer or even attempt to refute a single one of Mr. Dyer's arguments. In fact, he dodged and ducked every one of them, insisting that he was a friend of the Colored race and especially an admiring friend of Mr. Dyer, but that they merely differed in opinion. The main argument of Hawes, aside from that of state rights, was that the Dyer Bill would surely be declared unconstitutional, notwithstanding the fact that two presidents, four attorney generals, the house judiciary committee, all lawyers, all had said it was constitutionally sound. Hawes quoted only one person, a "Republican Congressman from Maine," as his authority for saying the measure was contrary to the constitution, and brought a laugh upon himself by admitting that he "thought he had that opinion at hand, but found he had mislaid it."

Hawes talked well—as well as a man with so poor a case could make argument, but showed from the very start that he realized the weakness of his position. He spoke for thirty-five minutes, and practically everything he said in the last ten minutes of his time was complete admission of every point in Mr. Dyer's position.

A series of questions from the audience followed, and the nature of the questions flung at Mr. Hawes made it plain beyond all question that Congressman Dyer had the full sympathy of the audience, because of his forceful, logical and simple manner of presenting fundamental truths, with absolutely no fustian nor rattle of verbal panoply.

SOUTHERN STATES, PLEASE NOTICE

THE LEGISLATURES of several northern states have passed laws designated to drive out all hooded organizations and stop lynching and mob violence. The principal features of the Pennsylvania anti-lynching law are that it makes every person who takes part in a lynching guilty of murder, and that it prescribes a fine of not less than $10,000 and imprisonment for not more than ten years, as punishment for any person who may attempt to take a prisoner from an officer of the law; a fine of $5,000 or imprisonment for five years as penalty for any officer who lets a prisoner be taken from him, and a penalty of $10,000 for any county in which a lynching may occur.

THE EDITOR of the Albany Journal voices our sentiments when he says: "Such law, whose provisions are severe enough to accomplish its purpose when once it has been made evident that there is determination to enforce it, would be more impressive if it had been enacted in a state in which lynchings are frequent." Mob murder is a rare occurrence in a state in the North. However, the example which has been set may in time have wholesome effect to impel states in which mobs have often had their way with persons guilty or suspected of crime to proceed to the enactment of a similar law.

PRESIDENT COOLIDGE STIRRED BY LAWLESSNESS.

Dallas Express
Dallas, Texas Sept. 1, 1923

Press dispatches contain information to the effect that the new president Coolidge, stirred up by reports of lynching, flogging and other depredations of masked and unmasked bands in Texas, Georgia, Florida, Ohio, and Oklahoma, were considering the advisability of enacting an anti-mob bill in the next Congress. The proposed legislation would not only include lynching but all forms of lawlessness by bands who take the law into their own hands. The bill would make any act of mob violence a Federal offense. Penalties on a smaller scale for outrages other than lynching would be provided for in it.

It is probably true that in every state in the nation, President Coolidge will find active and eager supporters for such a measure and that support would be more readily forth-coming than was support for the Dyer Bill which unfortunately was shelved.

Masked bands, the concrete evidence of the growth of mob tendencies in the country generally, have operated so widely as to be considered a general menace to the established laws of the nation. In fact there are few states now in which some form of mob law has not manifested itself and the spirit of lawlessness not proved itself present.

State law making bodies, composed of men with their political futures at stake, have not acted vigorously to suppress, these tendencies and to increase the respect of the general public for constituted authority.

The Federal law-makers must act if the nation is to be saved from its own folly.

President Coolidge has established a reputation for devotion to constituted authority which will go far toward causing general confidence in his ability to carry out any legislation in its behalf which he may undertake. In fact, Democrats as well as Republicans can find common ground for support of such legislation as he is now proposing.

We hope that the actual proposal of such a bill may be made. We believe that the sentiment created by the fight for and against the Dyer bill and the discussion of lawlessness which has followed its failure, may be turned to good account in support of new legislation of a similar notice.

And too, it may argue well politically for Coolidge, who, with only a few months before him before another campaign, needs the good will of Republicans everywhere, pivotal states where Negro voters are dissatisfied, not excepted.

AS TO N. E. R. L.

Boston Colored people have not forgotten the steady, aggressive, continuous work in which the Greater Boston Branch and National Headquarters of the National Equal Rights League worked from April 27th, of last year in the Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill way up till the second week in December when the Republicans gave up the bill in face of the filibuster and threat of the Southern Democrats.

They have not forgotten how Lodge was visited over at his friends home Beacon Street, how he was written and telegraphed to through August, he was hounded till he put in the preferred list early in ember. How he was followed up by the League till he insisted the Republican caucus stand by the bill in September and then the session ended as debate began.

Not soon will Mass. Colored people forget how on Sept. 27, 1922 the League started a national petition to President Harding to call an extra session and specify the bill in the call, how the Boston Branch Committee had another audience with Senator Lodge at Republican State Headquarters on October 4th, to back up the petition with President Harding and finally the President published his intention of calling an extra session with the general plan of considering the Shipping Bill and incidentally the Dyer Bill.

Greater Boston Colored folks will not forget that the League secured thousands of signatures an expensive proposition, and kept after Lodge till he secured the audience with the President. They still remember the League held this audience in the White House on Nov. 4th, 1922, with 9 delegates present from different sections, having actually procured the thousands of signers, and asked the President face to face to name the bill in the call. When he refused the delegates pressed him to recommend in his message to this session.

Boston remembers the League, when he failed, wired him to recommend it in his message to the regular session, wiring the Cabinet officers to advise it, also urging the Senators to put it first at the Extra Session. They remember how the League kept after Lodge until he, at the Republican Senatorial Caucus, insisted the bill be pushed despite threat of Democratic filibuster.

Who forgets that Rev. Harten from Brooklyn and Attorney Cyril F. Butler of Boston were on hand at the doors of Congress, representatives of the League and Boston Branch, working on Lodge and others to stand firm and fight the Filibuster until finally on December 3rd, the Republicans surrendered. Then the League wired Lodge in censure and demanded a change in the Senate rules.

Indeed will Colored Boston and Eastern Massachusetts turn out at People's Baptist Church on Monday night when the Boston Branch reports the Annual Meeting where a delegation was elected to go to President Coolidge, successor to the dead whom God called before he made good on his pledges to this League, and appeal to him to come out for the Dyer Bill. In ordinary honesty of appreciation of consistent effort will our race, not disloyal to self, not ingrates, our race, will flock to hear the report by the League of the actual audience secured and held to put the public wrongs of themselves up squarely to the new President face to face and ask for redress.

Surely this is no decent time to talk of the few paltry dollars collected at times few and far between for such work as has been done. Self-seekers would have refused to put all this work in for the very reason of so little finance. Drop carping. Turn out to hear of the White House audience Monday night and to hear Rep. Dyer on Thursday night.

CONFERENCE IN DENVER RATIFIES DYER BILL

J. H. P. Westbrook Presents Resolution Before Regional Conference of Republican National Committeemen

RESOLUTION ENDORSED

Resrlution Calls Attention to Spirit of Lawlessness existing throughout the Country and goes on record opposing It

DENVER, Colo., Oct. 22.—Dr. J. H. P. Westbrook of this city, presented a resolution calling for federal anti-lynching legislation, before a regional conference of Republican National Committeemen here on Oct. 11, and the resolution was unanimously adopted. The regional conference embraced committeemen from Colorado, Wyoming, Utah, New Mexico, Arizona and Nevada.

John T. Adams, chairman of the Republican National Committee, to whom the resolution was addressed, assured the committee that he would do all in his power to obtain legislation against lynching, and is reported by Dr. Westbrook to have stated that Pres. Coolidge would do the same. Each of the committeemen was asked individually if he endorsed the resolution and each man replied yes.

Others on the committee accompanying Mr. Westbrook, were George W. Gross, president of the local branch, N. A. A. C. P.; Thomas Campbell, president of the Denver Colored Civic Association, and John W. Hardy, clerk to U. S. Senator, Lawrence C. Phipps.

The text of the resolution, is as follows:

WHEREAS, There seems to be a spirit of anarchy, lawlessness and a growing disrespect for the laws of our regularly constituted government throughout the country, and;

WHEREAS, The lives of citizens, regardless of race, color, or nationality are repeatedly threatened and in many instances actually taken without trial by Court and Jury, and;

WHEREAS, The Republican Party in National convention assembled in 1920, went on record as favoring anti-lynching legislation, and;

WHEREAS, The late lamented President Harding recommended to Congress the carrying out of the pledge made by the Republican party:

BE IT RESOLVED, That we, undersigned citizens, voters and Republican National Committeemen in regional conference assembled with the Hon. John T. Adams, chairman of the National Republican committee, held in the city and county of Denver, State of Colorado this, the 11th day of October, A. D., 1923, to the end that you and each of you use your influence with the President and congress of the United States for the passage of legislation making lynching a Federal crime.

Lynchings—1923.
Legislation Relating to.

1342

CHARLESTON, W. VA., GAZ.
MARCH 25, 1923

THE ANTI-LYNCHING BILL.

The politicians are busy trying to work upon the prejudices of the negro race, as is always the case about election times. Now, the political tricksters are using the fact that the House of Delegates recently repealed what is known as the Anti-Lynching law. This law was passed for the purpose of permitting some Republican politicians to appeal to the negro race on the ground that the law was passed for the benefit of that race. That appeal presupposes that negroes are lynched in West Virginia, and that the anti-lynching bill would tend to prevent it. Neither assumption is true. The bill does not prevent lynching. People who go out in a mob to wreak vengeance upon a victim will not be deterred by the fact that the city or county in which the lynching occurred will have to pay $5,000.00 to the legal representative of the person lynched. Laws of this kind never do any one any good. The benefits to be derived are figments of the imagination, mere assumptions of conditions that do not exist and results that are not logical.

Representative Zimmerman who fathered the repeal of the law based his measure upon the sound principle that a community should not suffer for the illegal acts of a few people, and he reasoned most correctly that the compensation allowed was meager and fell upon the innocent, and that as a prevention of crime it was a total failure. Bue he did not have in mind the negro race, and can in no way be charged either with a desire or an effort to injure it or discriminate against it. Take the history of Kanawha county for instance, and, within the memory of man there have been but three mobs that have inflicted death upon persons accused of crime; all three of the vietims were white men, and one of these was hung by negroes. There have been in Kanawha county several legal executions, some of the victims have been white and some colored. There is nothing in the history of this congested section to cause any one to make a legal discrimination of any kind in dealing with the races, and the bill recently passed under the leadership of Mr. Zimmerman should be justly placed in the category of measures championed by sincere legislators who feel that legislation like the anti-lynching law is erroneous in principle, and accomplishes no good.

Any attempt to make a race question out of it is poor politics and unjust to every one connected with the repealing law. There is no hostility among the races here; our people are living together quietly and peaceably, each respecting the rights of the other; and the negro race would act very unwisely if it permitted a few politicians to weaken them in their proper efforts at advancement, by a forced construction of a proper attitude towards general legislation. It is a stretch of the imagination to infer that lynching laws affect only the negro. Nothing but the false claims upon which the law was passed are offered in opposition to the repeal. It is as reasonable to make the public pay for robbery, arson or murder, as to make it pay for other illegal acts; and such a law would not stop robbery, arson or murder, either.

DYER BEGINS SPEAKING IN WEST ON ANTI-LYNCH BILL

New York, May 11.—The campaign to have the Dyer anti-lynching bill enacted into law by the next United States Congress is under way, according to announcement by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, 70 Fifth Ave. Representative Dyer has begun his speaking tour under the auspices of the N. A. A. C. P., having already spoken in Kansas City, Springfield, Ill., Omaha and Denver.

Representative Dyer is using as one of the arguments for federal action against lynching the recent mob murder of James Scott, janitor of the University of Missouri, who was hanged from a bridge while protesting his innocence of an alleged attempt at assault, while the father of the girl alleged to have been attacked pleaded in vain with the mob to give its victim a trial.

At the Springfield mass meeting which he addressed Representative Dyer said of his measure:

"The bill is not sectional in its scope nor is it aimed at any particular part of the country. It simply provides justice for the survivors of those lynched no matter of what race or creed or color. The anti-lynching bill provides a federal hearing for those active in the crime and will necessitate investigation by government authorties and trial in the federal court for the lynchers."

DYER HAS NEW SCHEME.

Will Offer Bill to Try Lynchers in U S. Courts.

OMAHA, Neb., April 30.—A bill for indictment and trial of lynchers in federal instead of state courts will be introduced at the next session of Congress, according to a statement made today by Representative Leonidas C. Dyer, Republican, St. Louis. Mr. Dyer characterized the lynching yesterday at Columbia, Mo., as "another of the weekly brandings of shame on the fair cheek of America."

Representative Dyer, here to deliver an address, said he had hopes the bill would be passed.

PENNSYLVANIA HOUSE PASSES LYNCHING BILL

Andrew Stevens, Colored Lawmaker From Philadelphia, Gets Bill Through The House.

ONLY ONE NEGATIVE VOTE

Every Democrat Supported Measure. Senate Is Said To Be Favorable.

(Special Correspondence)

HARRISBURG, Pa., April 19—After four hours debate which carried last night's session into the early morning hours, the Steven's Anti-Lynching Bill passed the House of Representatives with only one negative vote recorded against it. So tense was the interest in this measure, as evidenced by the crowd in attendance which packed every available space, that the result of the balloting came as a great surprise.

So skillfully had the author of this remedial legislation engineered this measure that every amendment proposed was defeated. The bill is almost a replica of the Dyer Bill, as it was originally introduced in Congress. The only difference is that it is made applicable to the State.

Every Democrat Supported Bill

The entire Democratic delegation of forty-three (43) members voted for the Stevens' Bill. The one negative vote was cast by a Republican. The bill goes to the Senate next Wednesday for final passage and will soon become a law, as Governor Pinchot is strongly urging the measure.

Representative Andrew F. Stevens, the Author of the Bill is a member of the well known Philadelphia Banking firm of Brown and Stevens. He is one of the most popular men in public affairs and is the recipient of great praise from all classes for his remarkable higher legislature honors.

Pennsylvania Favors Anti-Lynching Bill

ALL DEMOCRATIC MEMBERS SUPPORT BILL

REPUBLICAN CASTS ONLY DISSENTING VOTE

Harrisburgh, Pa., April 26.—Special to The News.—After four hours debate which carried last night's session into the early morning hours, the Stevens' Anti-Lynching Bill passed the House of Representatives with only one negative vote recorded against it. So tnse was the interest in this measure, as evidenced by the crowd in attendance which packed every available space, that the result of the balloting came as a great surprise.

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METHODIST WOMEN, SOUTH, OPEN WAR ON LYNCHING.

The Woman's Missionary Council at its recent meeting went on record in unmeasured condemnation of mob violence and called upon the authorities, the pulpit, the press, and all good people to unite for its suppression. The following resolutions were adopted by unanimous vote:

"Whereas the defeat of the Dyer Anti-lynching Bill has thrown back upon each State the whole responsibility for removing this hideous crime; therefore be it

"*Resolved:* 1. That the Woman's Missionary Council of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, in annual session in Mobile, Ala., April 4-11, 1923, do now demand of the authorities of the several States that they make good their claim of the right of local self-government by proving their competency to abolish mob violence and lynching.

"2. That as citizens we assume our responsibility for the protection of human life and hereby call upon all the people of all the States, upon the pulpit and the press to join against these barbarous practices."

A plan was adopted for enlisting in an intelligent, systematic antilynching campaign the 6,000 local organizations affiliated with the Council, which have an aggregate membership of nearly 250,000 of the South's most influential women. The plan provides for a study of lynching on the part of each local society, for the effort to secure in each State such special legislation on this subject as may be needed, for vigilance in the prevention of mob violence, for active coöperation with officials in bringing the members of mobs to justice, and for a sustained effort to develop in each community a spirit of good will that will make such crimes impossible. In pursuance of these ends the societies will seek the coöperation of all other religious and civic groups. The Council pledged to the campaign both moral and financial support. Mrs. Luke Johnson, who is Director of Woman's Work in the Southern Commission on Interracial Cooperation, was reëlected Chairman of the Council's Commission on Race Relations.

Southern Methodist women, led by the late Miss Belle H. Bennett, have for a number of years been deeply interested in the Christianizing of race relations and have been doing very effective work to that end.

COMMISSION ON INTERRACIAL COÖPERATION.

Houston Tex. Post
Lynching
JUN 8 1923

THE HOUSTON POST

— BY THE —

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HOUSTON, TEXAS, FRIDAY.....JUNE 8, 1923

The Teeth in the Law

That provision in the new Pennsylvania anti-lynching law, which imposes a fine of $10,000 upon any county in which a lynching occurs, is being strongly opposed by many who are in general sympathy with the movement to stamp out lynching.

"What sense of justice is there," asks the Cincinnati Enquirer, "in a provision that makes an entire community and county composed of law-abiding citizens subject to a penalty whenever a maddened mob exercises its will in the county? The mass of citizenship has no sympathy with mob violence, and why in the name of all that is reasonable should it be penalized for criminal disorder it is powerless to prevent?"

The answer to that question is that it is the crux of the whole matter. That provision constitutes the real teeth in the law. It is not true that communities are powerless to prevent lynchings. On the other hand, lynching occurs because of the negligence and indifference of the law-abiding element in the community.

In the average community, even in the South which is accused of justifying lynching more than some other sections, it is admitted that the majority of the people are not sympathetic with the mobs, at the same time they have shown little disposition or capacity to impress the mobs with their hostility to mob violence.

Many people deplore the occurrences, but get no further than that. They make no organized effort to bring to justice the lynchers or to prevent further outrages. If the local officials go to the trouble at all to make an investigation, it is of a perfunctory sort, and if any evidence is found, everybody is surprised, including the officers. Under these conditions, for all practical purposes, the lynchers have the moral support of the communities in which they operate.

The force in the provision for a fine against the county lies in the effect it will have in bringing communities of law-abiding people out of the state of lethargy and indifference toward mob violence. The pocketbook nerve is an extremely sensitive one. It requires only a little touch to stimulate its owner. No county will pay more than one or two $10,000 fines for lynchings, before the taxpayers of that county will organize public sentiment to be so alert against lynchers that no crowd will dare take the law in their own hands.

Because they are responsible for the proper execution of the laws, the people are accomplices of lynchers when they do nothing to check them. Moreover, it is a well established principle in law that persons are liable for negligence which result in injuries to others. If it be criminal negligence, the offender is prosecuted in the criminal court, and if the criminal element be missing, he is liable for damages to the injured person and may be sued in the civil courts. In some States the relatives of the victim of lynchers have the expressed right to sue the counties for damages, in which the outrage occurred.

The Pennsylvania law, and the Dyer bill defeated in congress last spring, after which the Pinchot measure was modeled, assumes liability on the part of counties which permit lynchings.

And there is just as much justice in that assumption as in assuming that corporations are liable for damages to employes injured through company negligence, or that the owner of a building which burns or collapses through his indifference to the rules of safety, is criminally liable for a disaster. The provision complained of is not only just, and based on precedent, but it is the most vital feature in the law.

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Lynchings.—1923
Legislation Relating to.

1343

FLORIDA JUDGE SETS HIS FOOT DOWN ON MOBS AND LYNCHING

Richmond Planet

CHARGES GRAND JURY TO PROTECT HUMBLEST AS WELL AS THE WEALTHY.

Richmond, Va.

2-10-23

(Preston News Service)

Gainesville, Fla., Feb. 8.—In a long charge to the grand jury Judge A. V. Long declared the action of Justice of the Peace in assuming jurisdiction of the cow stealing unwarranted and the action of the deputy in failing to place Abe Wilson, the accused in county jail a misconduct of office. The charge of Judge Long, delivered extemporaneously follows:

"The Court charges you, gentlemen of the grand jury, that an order was issued that you reassemble for the reason that subsequent to your dismissal the first week of the term, a homicide has been committed in this county, in which one Abe Wilson lost his life at the hands, presumably, a mob.

"The court desires to call your attention, first, to the fact that this man was charged with the larceny of a cow in a warrant issued by a justice of the peace of this county. It is the law of this state that no one shall be tried for a felony in the circuit court except upon an indictment found by a grand jury. The larceny of a cow, horse or cattle is a felony and punishable by not less than two years, nor more than five, in the state penitentiary. Regardless of this man's constitutional right and regardless of the fact that a justice's court had no right or authority to try and determine the guilt or innocense of Wilson, this justice of the peace, usurping the jurisdiction of a higher court placed this man upon trial for petty larceny, valuing the cow at $15 and proceeded in the night time, to try the case, rendering a judgment that he pay a fine of $300 and costs or be committed to the county jail for a period of six months. Upon this judgment, void as it was, and upon a commitment issued by him, as void as the blank paper upon which it was written, this man was incarcerated, not in the common jail of Alachua county, but in a jail at Newberry and taken therefrom and executed.

"It is also apparent from the files that this justice of the peace is the coroner who held the inquest; that without any examination of the body of Wilson by those competent to judge or determine the case of death that is to say, whether he died from hanging or whether he was murdered in some other way, and then hung up in order to throw responsibility upon an unknown mob, was not determined but the verdict of the jury was that he came to his death by hanging.

SCORES DEPUTY SHERIFF

"The court calls your attention to the fact that Alachua county has but one jail, and that it was the duty of the deputy sheriff not to have placed this man in a jail at Newberry, but to have transported him with all speed to the common jail of Alachua county, and delivered him into the custody of the sheriff.

NOT BECAUSE HE WAS A NEGRO

"It is not to be said that because Abe Wilson was a Negro that the fullest investigation should not be given. This court instructs you that it matters not his race or color, the law has been violated; constituted authority has been ignored and opposed, and it is your duty to sincerely, honestly and fearlessly make an effort to bring the guilty parties to justice. It has been well said that this government of ours is one that can protect the humblest citizen standing in the shadow of his little cot, as well as it can protect the wealthy in his castle of marble and gold.

THE EXECUTION OF WILSON WAS JUST PLAIN MURDER

"The execution of Wilson was not a lynching in the plain acceptance of the term; he was not executed by an enraged populace whose reason had become dethroned because of the heinousness of the offense, nor was it to avenge the honor of some innocent woman, but it was murder, as foul as ever perpetrated and has reflected upon this county and the commonwealth of Florida and has been condemned in the great dailies and magazines of the country. It is the duty of the officers of this county and yourselves as grand jurors, do not use their best efforts to determine who committed this disgraceful crime within the confines you shall be regarded as remiss in your duty and shall answer for this neglect in the last great day.

REFERS TO RESOLUTION.

"My attention has been called to a resolution passed by the people of Newberry, assembled in the Methodist Church of that city on January 29th, condemning in no unmeasured terms this violation of law in their midst. They are to be commended, and I feel that you will have no difficulty in obtaining from those assembled at that meeting anything that may be known to them with reference to this homicide.

FEDERAL COMMISSION ON LYNCHING BILL

The New York Age.

FEDERAL COMM on lynching bill

Jan 20. 1923

The following is the text of the Joint Resolution (268) introduced into the United States Senate on Monday, January 15, by Senator Joseph S. Frelinghuysen of New Jersey, providing for the appointment of a Federal Commission on Lynching, to be composed of five commissioners appointed by the President, by and with the advice of the Senate.

New York N.Y.

The Joint Resolution is as follows:

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES: January 9 (calendar day, January 15), 1923. Mr. Frelinghuysen introduced the following joint resolution; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

JOINT RESOLUTION

Establishing a commission to investigate lynching.

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

That there is hereby established a commission to be known as the "Federal Commission on Lynching." The commission shall be composed of five commissioners appointed by the President, and with the advice and consent of the Senate. The commissioners shall elect a commissioner as chairman by a majority vote. Any vacancy in the office of a commissioner shall be filled in the same manner as the original appointment. The commissioners shall serve without compensation, except reimbursement for traveling, subsistence and other necessary expenses incurred in the performance of the duties vested in them by this resolution. The commission shall cease to exist one year from the date of its organization.

Sec. 2. That for the purpose of advising and providing information for Congress in matters of legislation which will prevent lynching and insure to all persons the equal protection of the laws and provide for the better enforcement of our treaties relating to the protection of aliens, the commission shall conduct a general inquiry into the subject of lynching in the United States, including the number occurring, the causes thereof, the adequacy of methods now used to prevent lynchings, and the availability of additional legislative and administrative remedies for their avoidance. The commission shall report thereon to the Congress and to the President at such times as the President deems advisable and shall make to the Congress and to the President a final report not later than one year form the date of its organization.

Sec. 3. (a) That for the efficient administration of the functions vested in the commission by this resolution, any member of the commission may administer oaths, examine any witness, and require by subpœna issued and signed by the chairman of the commission (1) th eattendance of any witness and th eproduction of any paper, document, or other evidence from any place in the United States at any designated place of hearing in the United States, (2) the taking of a deposition before any designated individual having authority to administer oaths, (3) an answer in writing under oath to any question of fact submitted. In the case of a deposition, testimony shall be reduced to writing by or under the direction of the individual taking such deposition and shall then be subscribed by the deponent. Any witness who attends or whose deposition is taken under this section shall be paid the same fees and mileage as are paid witnesses in the courts of the United States. Any notary public or other officer authorized by law of the United States or of a State, Territory, or of the District of Columbia to take acknowledgement of deeds shall be competent to administer oaths for the purposes of this section.

(b) In case of failure to comply with such subpœna or make any written answer or in case of a contumacy of any witness before the commission, the commission may invoke the aid of any United States court. The court may thereupon order the witness to comply with the requirements of such subpœna, to give evidence touching the matter in question, or to make answer in writing under oath. Any failure to obey the order may be punished by the court as a contempt thereof.

(c) No person shall be excused from so attending, testifying, or deposing or from so producing any book, paper, document, or other evidence, or from making any answer in writing, on the ground that the testimony or evidence tend to incriminate him or subject to a penalty or forfeiture; but no natural person shall be prosecuted or subjected to any penalty or forfeiture for or on account of any transaction made or thing done as to which, in obedience to subpoena or under oath, he may testify, depose, or produce evidence or make answer in writing, except that no person shall be exempt from prosecution and punishment for perjury.

Sec. 4. That the commission may appoint, remove, and fix the compensation of such employees, and make such expenditures (including expenditures for salaries, traveling expenses, per diem rates of allowance in lieu of subsistence, witness fees, rent, printing and binding, and contingent and miscellaneous expenses) as are necessary for the efficient execution of the functions vested in the commission by this resolution and as

1343

Sheriffs and Mobs

(From the New York Tribune)

The Kansas senate has passed a bill to make peace officers criminally responsible for mob activities in their districts. It provides prison terms of two to five years for the authorities found culpable in failing to suppress riots. Sheriffs or police heads generally may be dismissed from office for willful failure to enforce the peace, but the Kansas senate apparently deems that too light a penalty.

This is a variant of the principle of the Dyer bill that failed in the present congress. Representative Dyer wanted to assess fines on counties where lynchings took place, thus holding the community responsible for choosing determined officers.

2/12/23

Those skilled in police work know that frequently it is not a difficult thing to head off a mob if action is taken at the right time—that is, before disorder gains organized momentum. Few of Kansas' sheriffs are trained peace officers and one suspects that inability to stop mobs is due to lack of knowledge in handling them as often as to reluctance to combat them.

The proposed measure may stimulate study of scientific methods of keeping the peace. At any rate, it is likely to help reduce mob violence, which, while rare in Kansas, is one of the worst disgraces to American justice.

WOMAN TO PRESENT ANTI-LYNCHING BILL

Baltimore Herald

Madison, Ga., Feb. 7.—Mrs. Z. I. Fitzpatrick, of Madison, Ga., formerly presient of the Georgia State Federation of Women's Clubs, and now a director for life of the State organization, is a member of a committee which is drafting an anti-lynching bill to be presented to the State legislature at its next session. The chairman of the committee is Judge Samuel B. Adams, of Savannah, and other members are Judge Cobb of Athens, and the Hon. Marvin Underwood of Atlanta, former assistant Attorney-General of the United States.

Democrats Extract Teeth of Anti-Lynch Law in W. Virginia

Pittsburg American

CHARLESTON, W. Va., March 30.—Condemning lynching in vigorous terms, delegate H. J. Capehart, of McDowell county, attacked the Zimmerman bill in the house of delegates when it came up for second reading. The bill, which was introduced by the Democratic floor leader. J. S. Zimmerman, of Hampshire county, would repeal the penalty clauses of the anti-lynching law, enacted by the legislature of 1921. 3/30/23

Appealing first to the Anglo-Saxon ideals of fairness and justice, Delegate Capehart, the only Negro member of the house of delegates, called attention to the fact that the anti-lynching law has been in effect for two years, and that not a single person has been lynched in West Virginia during that time.

Asking Delegate Zimmerman to explain the reasons for repealing the penalty clauses of the anti-lynching law, the McDowell county delegate remarked that it is surely not part of the economy program of the majority party in the house. "Has it been a burden to the people of this state?" he asked. "On the contrary," he said, "it has been recognized as a valuable law, not only by the Republicans, but also by the Democrats. Why repeal a law," he asked, "that will guarantee trial by jury?"

In Arkansas, he said, the custom of lynching the weakest citizens, the Negroes, developed until mobs were lynching white men.

Quotes Woodrow Wilson

Describing Woodrow Wilson as a man of vision, a man prophetic, he quoted the former president as condemning lynching.

He also cited Bourke Cochran, the late Democratic orator and representative in Congress from New York, who, when the Dyer anti-lynching bill was before Congress, said that the Dyer bill was right in principle and that, though he believed it wrong in procedure, there was so much more good than bad in it that he would vote for it.

After the anti-lynching law was enacted by the West Virginia legislature, he said, he was pleased to see that it was endorsed by the press of the state, both Republican and Democratic.

CHATTANOOGA, TENN. Times

APR 12 1923

STOP LYNCHING PLEA OF WOMEN

Methodist Council Passes a Strong Resolution.

Defeat of Dyer Bill Justly Throws Responsibility Back on States.

MOBILE, Ala., April 11.—A resolution calling upon the people of all southern states and upon the pulpit and the press to unite in an effort to stamp out lynching was adopted by the Woman's Missionary council of the Methodist church in session here yesterday afternoon. The adoption of the resolution followed an earnest appeal by Dr. W. W. Alexander, of Atlanta, chairman of the Methodist committee on interracial co-operation. The resolution was offered, it was stated, in view of the fact that the antilynching bill had failed to pass in the last congress.

Mrs. F. F. Stephens, of Columbus, Mo., who has been serving as acting president of the council since the death of Miss Bell H. Bennett several months ago, was elected president of the council at its session here today. Mrs. Stephens has been presiding over the sessions here. Her election was made unanimous after the balloting showed that she had 61 out of 85 votes.

The next meeting place of the council will be selected at the session tonight. The conference will close Wednesday, after being in session for a week.

The resolution offered by Dr. W. W. Alexander, of Atlanta, chairman of the Methodist committee on an inter-racial co-operation project calling on the people of the southern states, the pulpit and the press to suppress lynching, was as follows:

"Whereas, the defeat of the Dyer antilynching bill, which provided for federal control of lynching, has thrown the whole responsibility back upon each state for removing this hideous crime, therefore,

"Be it resolved, That the Women's Missionary council of the Methodist Episcopal church, south, in annual session at Mobile, Ala., April 4-11, 1923, do now demand of the authorities of the several states that they make good their claim by proving their competency to abolish mob violence and lynching.

"That we assume our responsibility as citizens for the protection of human life, and hereby call upon all the people of all the states, upon the pulpit and the press, to join in an insistent agitation against this barbarous practice."

The plan adopted to attain the objects for which the resolution was adopted provides for a study of lynching on the part of each local society, in an effort to secure in each state such special legislation as may be needed to prevent mob violence, for active co-operation with the officials in bringing to justice any who may indulge in lynchings, for the continued effort to develop in each community such a spirit as will make mob violence impossible and, to this end, co-operate with other religious organizations. Dr. Alexander declared that lynching is a disease prevalent in some communities and in some states and that the malady spreads very rapidly. He refuted the accusations that it is common to the old south, or to the best class of southern people, stating that, in the older southern communities, there is less or none of such violations. He also pointed out that lynchings are less prevalent in the black belt than in sections where there is a sparse population of negroes. Dr. Alexander also said that lynchings are not necessary; if they were they would never have been practically discontinued in South Carolina, he stated. The speaker asserted that, although leaders and members of mobs claim to be protecting white women when committing mob lawlessness, the statistics show that only one-fourth of the lynchings perpetrated are for crimes involving women.

As some of the remedies for lynchings, Dr. Alexander recommended that, first, attention be paid to feeble-minded negro children, as well as white ones, that jails be supplied with both riot guns and water hose and a sheriff with nerve enough to use both of them, turn out all officers who have been in office five years, though in doing so you may lose some good ones.

CHURCH SCORES LYNCHING EVIL

KNOXVILLE, TENN. Journal

APR 11 1923

Methodists Adopt Resolution Condemning Practice And Urging Co-operation.

Mobile, Ala., April 10.—A resolution calling upon the people of all southern states and upon the pulpit and the press to unite in an effort to stamp out lynching was adopted by the Woman's Missionary Council of the Methodist church, in session here late this afternoon. The adoption of the resolution followed an earnest address by Dr. W. W. Alexander, of Atlanta, chairman of the Methodist committee on inter-racial cooperation. The resolution was offered, it was stated, in view of the fact that the anti-lynching bill had failed to pass in the last congress.

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ANTI-LYNCHING BILL PASSED BY PA. HOUSE AND GOES TO SENATE

Act, Modelled After Dyer Bill, By Rep. Stevens, Urged By Gov. Pinchot

(Special to The New York Age)

Harrisburg, Pa.—After four hours debate, which carried the night's session into the early morning hours, the Stevens' Anti-Lynching Bill passed the House of Representatives on April 18 with only one negative vote recorded against it. So tense was the interest in this measure, as evidenced by the crowd in attendance which packed every available space, the result of the balloting came as a great surprise.

So skillfully had the author of this remedial legislation engineered this measure that every amendment proposed was defeated. The bill is almost a replica of the Dyer Bill, as it was originally introduced in Congress. The only difference is that it is made applicable to the State.

The entire Democratic delegation of forty-three members voted for the Stevens' Bill. The one negative vote was cast by a Republican. The bill goes to the Senate next Wednesday for final passage, and will soon become a law, as Governor Pinchot is strongly urging the measure.

Representative Andrew F. Stevens, the author of the bill, is a member of the well known banking firm of Brown & Stevens, Philadelphia.

Lynchings—1923.
Legislation Relating to.

1332

Ohio's Anti-Lynching Law

Leads the Country in Legislation

Against The Mob and Lynch-Murder—The Work of a Member of the Race—Also Ohio's Civil Rights Law

Our mob-violence or anti-lynching bill was introduced in the Ohio legislature in 1894 and re-introduced in 189[illegible] It took Hon. Harry C. Smith, then editor of the Gazette, just three years to secure its enactment into law. The Ohio Supreme Court has several times upheld the law which has been very effective. Only one other state (Illinois) in this country has such a law and it is largely a copy of our Ohio law. Here it is (in the statutes) under the heading

Mobs

Section
6278. "Mob" and "lynching" defined.
6279. "Serious injury" defined.
6280. Damages in case of assault.
6281. Damages in case of lynching.
6282. Damages recoverable by legal representative of victim of lynching
6283. Person suffering death or injury by mob trying to lynch another
6284. Limitations of action.
6285. Order to include recovery and costs in tax levy.
6286. Guardian's custody, etc., fees.
6287. County's right of action against member of mob.
6288. County's right of action against another county.
6289. Non-relief from prosecution.

Section 6278. A collection of people assembled for an unlawful purpose and intending to do damage or injury to any one, or pretending to exercise correctional power over other persons by violence and without authority of law, shall be deemed a "mob" for the purpose of this chapter. An act of violence by a mob upon the body of any person shall constitute a "lynching" within the meaning of this chapter. (93 v. 161 2.)

Section 6279. The term "serious injury," for the purpose of this chapter, shall include such injury as permanently or temporarily disables the person receiving it from earning a livelihood by manual labor. (93 v. 161 3.)

Section 6280. A person taken from officers of justice by a mob, and assaulted with whips, clubs, missiles or in any other manner, may recover, as hereafter provided, a sum not to exceed one thousand dollars as damages from the county in which the assault is made. (93 v. 161 4.)

Section 6281. A person assaulted and lynched by a mob may recover, from the county in which such assault is made, a sum not to exceed five hundred dollars; or, if the injury received therefrom is serious, a sum not exceeding one thousand dollars; or, if such injury result in permanent disability to earn a livelihood by manual labor, a sum not to exceed five thousand dollars. (93 v. 162 5.)

Section 6282. The legal representative of a person dying from injuries received from lyinching by a mob, may recover of the county in which such injury occured, a sum not to exceed five thousand dollars damages for such unlawful killing. Such sum shall be applied to the maintenance of the family and education of the minor children of such person so lynched, if any survive him, until such children are of legal age, and then be distributed to the survivors, share and share alike, the widow receiving an amount equal to a child's share. If there be no widow or minor children surviving such decedent, such sum shall be distributed among the next of kin according to the laws of the distribution of the personality of an intestate. Such sum so recovered shall not be a part of the estate of such person so lynched, nor be subject to any of his liabilities. (93 v 162 6.)

Section 6283. A person suffering death or injury from a mob attempt- within the provisions of this chapter. He or his legal representatives shall have a like right of action as one purposely injured or killed by such a mob. (93 v. 162 6.)

Section 6284. Action for the recoveries provided for in this chapter must be commenced, within two years from the date of such lynching. in any court having original jurisdiction of an action for damages for malicious assault. (93 v. 162 7)

Section 6285. An order to the commissioners of a county, against which such recovery is had, to include it with the costs of action, in the next succeeding tax levy for such county, shall be a part of the judgment in every such case. (93 v. 162 8.)

Section 6286. If the decedent so lynched has minor children surviving him, the fund shall be turned over to a regularly appointed guardian. Such guardian shall administer such fund under the direction of the probate judge, allowing not more than five hundred dollars for counsel fees in the action for such recovery. (93 v. 162 9.)

Section 6287. The county, in which a lynching occurs, may recover the amount of a judgment and costs against it in favor of the legal representatives of a person killed or seriously injured by a mob from any of the persons composing such mob. A person present, with hostile intent, at such lynching shall be deemed a member of the mob and be liable to such action. (93 v. 162 10.)

Section 6288. If a mob carries a prisoner into another county, or comes from another county to commit violence on a prisoner brought from such county for safekeeping, the county in which the lynching is committed may recover the amount of the judgment and costs from the county from which the mob came, unless there was contributory negligence on the part of officials of such county in failing to protect such prisoner or dispurse such mob. (93 v 163 11.)

Section 6289. This chapter shall not relieve a person concerned in such lynching from prosecution for homicide or assault for engaging therein. (93 v. 163 12.)

OUR OHIO CIVIL RIGHTS LAW

Upon the request of many readers of The Gazette we print below the text of Hon. Harry C. Smith's Ohio Civil Rights law which the editor had enacted while a member of the 71st General Assembly, in 1894:

The General Code of Ohio:

Sec. 12940. Whoever, being the proprietor or his employee, keeper or manager of an inn, restaurant, eating house, barber-shop, public conveyance by land or water, theater or other place of public accommodation and amusement, denies to a citizen except for reasons applicable alike to all citizens and regardless of race or color, the full enjoyment of the accommodations, advantages, facilities or privileges thereof, shall be fined not less than fifty dollars nor more than five hundred dollars, or imprisoned not less than thirty days nor more than ninety days, or both.

Sec. 12941. Whoever violates the next preceding section shall also pay not less than fifty dollars nor more than five hundred dollars to the person aggrieved thereby to be recovered in any court of competent jurisdiction in the county where such offense was committed.

This law has repeatedly been held constitutional and good law by the Ohio Supreme court. The trouble is our people will not use it as often as they should, but expect it to do for them what they should and must do for themselves, under it, in the courts.

Judge Grant's Opinion of the Law.

Misled by the foolishly manufactured outcry for the passage of the Beaty bill, a few years ago, the Akron Beacon Journal published an editorial to which the editor of The Gazette replied, calling its attention to the fact that the Ohio Civil Rights law was good law and did not need amending. The following letter from Judge Grant, former presiding judge of the Court of Appeals of the Eighth District of Ohio, is self explanatory:

Akron, O., April 25, 1919.

Hon. Harry C. Smith,
Editor The Gazette Cleveland, O.

My Dear Sir: Observing your letter in the Beacon-Journal, of this city I venture to send you, under a separate cover, the Ohio Law Reporter of Feb. 3, last, containing the opinion of the Court of Appeals in the Puritan Lunch Co. vs. Leonard H. Forman, decided in Akron, last fall, in which a judgment for ($500) five hundred dollars was sustained. If the Beacon-Journal had known what was going on in its own town, there would have been no occasion for criticism, editorially THE LAW OF OHIO IS UNDER NO REPROACH, nor our courts and juries, in administering it. Not a word was said by the Beacon-Journal when the Forman case was reviewed.

Very truly yours,
C. R. Grant.

NEW JERSEY ENACTS ANTI-LYNCHING LAW

The Randolph Anti-Lynching Bill, passed by the legislature of New Jersey, has received the governor's signature and becomes a law. It provides that any city or county which permits mob violence may be held liable for a $5,000 penalty. A similar law has passed the lower house of the Pennsylvania legislature, with only one dissenting vote. The entire Democratic delegation of forty-three members supported the bill.

ANTI-KLAN BILL NOW A LAW IN ILLINOIS

(Pictorial News Service)

Springfield, Ill., July 6.—The anti-ku klux klan bill became a law last Thursday afternoon by Governor Small's approval. This statute makes it unlawful to disturb the peace, to kidnap, to assault with a deadly weapon, or to appear in public places while hooded, robed or masked to conceal identity and provides penalties. The measure was introduced by Representative Roberts.

DYER TO REINTRODUCE ANTI-LYNCHING BILL

New York, July 2.—Representative Leonidas Dyer of Missouri, speaking at an anti-lynching mass-meeting, declared he would reintroduce his Federal anti-lynching bill at the opening of the next session of Congress.

Mr. Dyer said public officials from the "lynching" States and the mobs were opposed to the proposed legislation, which would fine the people of a cunty in which a lynching takes place $10,000, to be paid to the county or dependents of the victim.

SPRINGFIELD M. REPUBLICAN
MAY 26, 1923

Pennsylvania's Antilynching Law

Pennsylvania's drastic antilynching act, which has just received Gov Pinchot's signature, evidently was modeled after the Dyer bill, which was introduced in Congress in 1921. Both measures provide for a fine of $10,000 to be imposed upon any county where a lynching takes place, for use of the family of the victim; both make officers of the law from whose hands a prisoner is taken and lynched guilty of a felony, punishable by five-years' imprisonment or a fine of $5000. The Dyer bill provides for a penalty of from five-

years' to life imprisonment for participation in a lynching mob; the Pennsylvania act makes such participation murder. It also provides for a minimum fine of $10,000 and imprisonment for not more than 10 years for attempt to take away from an officer a prisoner who has sought the protection of the court.

This is the sort of legislation that is needed for coping with the lynching evil. It must be made exceedingly precarious business to engage in if it is to be put an end to; and those immediately and closely responsible for protection of possible victims should be held strictly to their responsibility. The Dyer bill for federal action ought to be passed; and the states ought not to oppose such legislation. But neither should they wait for it. Pennsylvania, which is not one of the states where lynchings frequently take place has set a good example for its not distant neighbors.

[illegible] PA PUBLIC LEDGER
MAY 25, 1923

AN ANTI-LYNCHING LAW

ONE important piece of legislation which has been enacted at Harrisburg, but which has escaped the attention which it deserves, is the Stevens Anti-Lynching Bill, to which Governor Pinchot's signature was attached this week. This measure brands participation in a lynching as murder, imposes a stiff penalty upon public officers having in custody a prisoner taken by a mob and a whopping big fine upon the county in which a lynching occurs, to be paid either to the dependent family of the victim or to the State if the person put to death has no such dependents.

Commenting on this action, the New York World remarks that while Pennsylvania is not a State known for lynching, it has in this "act set a sound example to other States where mob murders are not infrequent and where little

AUTHOR OF DYER BILL PACKS DUNBAR THEATRE

HUNDREDS TURNED AWAY FROM GREATEST MEETING

The most successful meeting in the history of the local Branch of the N. A. A. C. P. was held last Monday night at the Dunbar Theatre with Congressman L. C. Dyer of St. Louis as the principal speaker. The Dunbar was packed from pit to garrett and at 9 o'clock, the doors were closed, while hundreds who were clamoring for admission were turned away. The stage was occupied by men and women prominent in all walks of life. Dr. Max Barber introduced the presiding officer, Mr. Billicoff of the Inter-Racial Committee. Dr. William Pickens explained the different classes of memberships and a large number of memberships were secured along with a large collection. Congressman Dyer in opening referred facetiously to the tendency of the Colored people to be imposed upon, saying that as a result Garvey was in jail. Continuing, he said: "Article 14 of the Constitution says that no State shall deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the law. Another section says the Congress shall have power to enforce by appropriate legislation the provisions of this Act. We endeavored in the last Congress to provide the means for the enforcement of that Constitutional Amendment through the Anti-Lynching Bill Is there anything in this that there should be any attack upon its constitutionality? The 18th Amendment was passed and the means to enforce it were provided by the Volstead Act. The Anti-Lynching Bill is to the 14th Amendment what the Volstead Act is to the 1t8h. Five thousand Colored people have been killed by mobs in past years and in no State have they prosecuted the criminals. The States do deny equal protection to persons killed by mobs. We provide that a man who participates in a mob, the United States in that jurisdiction can summon the grand jury from the whole Federal district to try him and not simply from the county in which the deed was done. It is about time to start talking about stopping this crime. Presidents and preachers have spoken and prayed about lynchings, but the criminal don't care about prayer. They need a few hangings. Peonage is the result of failure to stop lynching. If we don't punish them for lynching they think they can get by with peonage. Colored people in the North, East and West are thinking how to help those less fortunate. We owe a great deal to the N. A. A. C. P. because they gathered the facts about this crime and so we were able to refute the slanders against a whole race. White papers are now beginning to tell the truth about this matter. The Negro owns $1,500,000,000. They have 50,000 lawyers, 60,000 teachers, with 500,000 working in industry requiring skill. Their church property is valued at $9,000,000,000 and yet you are not getting a square deal from anybody or anywhere. You don5t get it in education. This country spends $1,500,000,000 for education. You furnish eleven per cent of the population and receive only two per cent for education.

We get this information from the N. A. A. C. P. that's why I want you to organize. Where are your Elks, Masons, Pythians, Knights Templar and other organizations? I would sacrifice all my lodges for the N. A. A. C. P. Our black boys gladly went to Europe to fight for liberty for France, England and Belgium, while not having it at home. I favor a World Court to stop war, but I told the President I wanted first and foremost to see justice in America. The excuse given for denial of justice to the Negro is social equality. The Colored man is seeking only to go ahead and achieve for themselves. They do not want to go anywhere where they are not wanted. They have built themselves a society of their own of which they are proud and the whites are no more welcome there than the Negro is in White society. I appeal to you to banish all jealousies, all bickerings and unite for this great cause. Some branches are dead, I know. In that case disorganize and organize all over again with those who are willing to do something.

After Mr. Dyer's speech, pledges were called for and the meeting which heartened the members as no recent meeting has done, was over.

MILLIONAIRE SOUTHERNER ENDORSES BRUCE'S ANTI-LYNCHING PROGRAM

Governors of Georgia and Texas Also Have Approved Plans for Governors' Conference

By Edgar G. Brown

Chicago, Ill., Sept. 13.—The Governors' conference outlined only three week sago by Senator William Cabell Bruce, of Maryland, (who still owns his plantation in Virginia) with a view of devising ways and means for the adoption of a uniform anti-Lynching bill that could be recommended to the several State legislatures has apparently been a ten pin strike.

Following closely the endorsement of Governor Waker of Georgia and the Governor of Texas, the National Committee this week received a check for $100 from the Hon. Dixon C. Williams, one o f the ex-Confederate Colonels of Tennessee with the mollowing letter:

"I congratulate you on the very timely plan of your committee in promoting a Governors' conference for the purpose of formulating a uniform Anti-Lynching bill to be recommended by the chief executive of each State to the respective legislatures.

"I have always felt as the New York Times pointed out in its editorial comment on this plan of Senator Bruce, that the Christian majority of the people of the Southland particularly would come forward in support of any legislation for the protection of fellow workers and American citizens.

"I am sure that the best thought of our country believes in justice and fair play for the Negro, and as one of those business men of the South who realizes that the best interests of all are inseparably linked with the colored citizens of our land.

"I can not state too emphatically that I am sincerely in sympathy with your movement, and I will be glad to assist in any capacity that will insure the success of such a splendid and patriotic service."

Lynchings—1923.
Legislation Relating to.

1333

President To Back Bill Against Lynching

East Tennessee News
Knoxville Tenn

Washington, Aug. 29.—President Coolidge will recommend a strong and potent anti-lynching measure to the next congress, and promises to get behind it with all of the influence and power of the White House, is the announcement given out by C. Bascom Slemp, new executive secretary. It is understood that the president will not only ask for the enactment of all of the clauses of the Dyer bill, but will urge that penalties and jurisdiction be incorporated for the punishment by the federal authorities of masked and hooded organizations engaged in outrages upon American citizens.

Washington has remarked the characteristics reserve that has prevailed with the president upon his policies in general, but in the matter of stamping out lynching the executive has broken the silence, and according to Mr. Slemp, he has broken it in a forceful and decisive manner.

Recent depredations reported from Georgia and other points in the south, in which men and women have been flogged by masked bands of marauders, are so deeply deplored by the president that he desires the anti-lynching measure to include penalties drastic enough to bring them to an end.

August 2, 1923

It is expected here that the bill will meet with the same opposition from the democratic members of congress, particularly from the south, that appeared against the Dyer bill. It will be remembered that Senator Underwood, leader of the minority and candidate for the democratic nomination for president, obstructed a vote on that measure and threatened to stop the functions of the government, with an infamous filibuster, rather than see it become a law. Those close to the president say that he believes the present emergent conditions will insure a favorable consideration of a new bill. At least the supposition obtains that with the long session of congress, which comes in December, there will be offered sufficient time to fight defenders of lynching to a finish.

AN ANTI-LYNCHING SENATOR.

The Senator-elect from Maryland, Mr. WILLIAM CABELL BRUCE, has given to a newspaper organ of the colored people in Baltimore a statement of his views regarding what should be done to bring to an end what he calls "the savage and abominable practice of lynching." Maryland has a large colored population, but in his campaign last Fall Mr. BRUCE made no especial appeal to negro voters. After his election he did state that no negroes who had voted for him would have any "reasonable cause" to regret having done so. Nor will the country have cause to regret the choice of the new Senator if, when in office, he displays as much clear-headedness and vigor in the maintenance of sound principles as he does in the present defining of his position.

Sunday Star
Washington D.C.
8-12-23

Mr. BRUCE states that he will not vote in the Senate for the Dyer Anti-Lynching bill. He believes that this Federal measure would certainly be held unconstitutional; and, in addition, he is persuaded that if it were enacted and the attempt made to enforce it the result would be to irritate and inflame sentiment in the various States so that in all probability it would do more harm than good. The true remedy, in Mr. BRUCE'S opinion, is action by the States to stamp out lynching. He would have leading men in the South, both white and colored, unite in demanding from the Legislatures a law imposing severe penalties upon all public servants concerned with the administration of justice who should refuse or fail to protect any man or woman threatened with lynching. This should be followed up, Mr. BRUCE declares, by a statute levying a heavy money fine, for the benefit of the victim's family, upon the community in which a lynching takes place. The new Senator from Maryland points to Virginia as a State which has made herself a model through reform of her criminal procedure and by a firm use of the militia in putting down lynching. In that Commonwealth, thus using enlightened and humane methods, lynching has become as rare as it is in most Northern States.

No discussion of the negro question and of lynching can fail to take note of the activities of the Ku Klux Klan. On this subject, too, Senator BRUCE speaks out with refreshing directness and force. He promises that whatever influence he may have will be thrown against the "proscriptive spirit" of the Klan. Conceding that some of its dupes may have patriotic motives, he justly says that such societies "by the inevitable law of their very being become mere seminaries of bigotry and ruffianism." No matter with what pretenses they begin, or what fair professions they make, they invariably end in an odious tyranny accompanied by criminal outrages."

By such frank and explicit utterances Mr. BRUCE confirms the good opinion of those who maintained last year that his election would be an honor to the State of Maryland and a strong reinforcement for the United States Senate. His attitude toward the highly important matters which he has been discussing is both manly and public-spirited. We hope that wide note of it will be taken.

GUV. WALKER MAY ACT

The Constitution
Atlanta
8-19-23

Georgia Faces Crisis in the Epidemic of Lynchings.

(By the Associated Press.)

ATLANTA, Aug. 18.—As the result of what was termed continued mob violations of the law in Georgia, Gov. Clifford Walker today called on Attorney General Napier for advice and was informed that in case he had evidence in his possession as to the effect local or county officials were not fully discharging their duties the chief executive could take charge of the situation to enforce the law.

If the governor should decide to take this step he would have authority to instruct sheriffs to swear in private citizens to enforce the law, or the executive could order the national guard to any point in the state where he thought militia was necessary to prevent further violations.

"I told the governor, however, that it was customary for the governor in Georgia to take charge of such situations after the sheriff or local officials had informed him they needed additional assistance," said the attorney general. "The governor, under the law, has no authority to remove a sheriff from office for neglect of duty."

NEW LAW IN JERSEY BANS MOBS

Assemblyman Oliver Randolph's Bill Penalizing Law-Breakers Goes Into Effect Today.

As the climax of long agitation New Jersey's first statute conceived by the Legislature as a curb on the Ku Klux Klan will become effective today. The bill was introduced by Assemblyman Oliver Randolph of Essex, passed by this year's Legislature and approved by Governor Silzer. It is Chapter 147 of the 1923 laws and is entitled "An act to suppress mob violence."

Newark Ledger
8-29-23

"Any collection of individuals, five or more in number, assembled for the unlawful purpose of offering violence to the person or property of anyone supposed to have been guilty of a violation of the law, or for the purpose of exercising correctional powers or regulative powers over any person or persons by violence, and without lawful authority, shall be regarded as a 'mob,'" reads the opening section of the law.

Persons who compose mobs with the intent to inflict damage or under the pretense of exercising correctional powers are made subject to a fine ranging from $100 to $1,000 and imprisonment for not less than 30 days nor more than one year for every offense. Where damage is inflicted, those participating are to be deemed guilty of a felony and subject to imprisonment not exceeding five years, and the person suffering by the acts of the mob, either to himself or his property, is given the right of action against the county or city in which the violence occurred for damages not exceeding $5,000. Survivors are given the same right of action where death is due to such violence.

It is provided further that "if any person shall be taken from the hands of the sheriff, or his deputy having such person in custody and shall be lynched, it shall be prima facie evidence of failure on the part of such sheriff to do his duty," and the Governor is to remove him from office. The official has the right of appeal to the Governor, however, and the Governor may reinstate him if evidence produced shows that he did all in his power to protect his prisoner.

GOV. WALKER TO ACT ON GEORGIA LYNCHINGS

The Negro World

Says He Will Use All State Power to Stop Lawlessness

8-25-23

ATLANTA, Ga., Aug. 20.—Deploring the lynching of two Georgia Negroes for alleged criminal assaults on white women, Governor Clifford Walker turned his attention to the investigations which he said would be ordered at once.

New York Herald

"I expect to use all the power of my office to prevent disorder and lawlessness in Georgia," the Governor declared with emphasis.

Both men were lynched in central Georgia, one at Wellston and the other at Cochran. In both instances the mobs worked quietly and systematically and immediately afterwards dispersed.

Lee Green, one of the Negroes lynched, was arrested in Macon and charged with attacking a prominent white woman in her home near Wellston on the evening of July 4.

As he was being taken to the Houston county jail a mob composed of about seventy-five men halted the officers and took the Negro from them. He was taken to the house of the woman he is alleged to have attacked, hanged to a tree and shot to death.

Aaron Harris, the other Negro lynched, was serving a term on a county chain gang for burglary at the time he is alleged to have gone to a nearby farmhouse for water and attacked the farmer's wife. While the sheriff and other jail officials were absent a mob tore a hole in the jail wall, sawed through a steel cage and took Harris a short distance out of Cochran, where they hanged him to a limb of a tree which had been used previously in a lynching.

TROY [illegible] TIMES
JUNE 2, 1923

...ing Lynching Odious and Costly

...ennsylvania has set an example ... dealing with the lynching evil that might offer an inspiration to other states in the Union. Realizing that only the most drastic measures can

cope with this menace ... law and order, and notwithstanding the fact that Pennsylvania has seldom had a lynching, the Legislature passed a statute that promises to prevent any such outbreaks in that commonwealth. Governor Pinchot has just signed the law, which in its severity has no equal. This law makes lynching murder and even the most clever lawyer will experience considerable difficulty in finding a loophole. The statute is sweeping in its scope, and not only places the responsibility for a lynching upon the actual participants, but also upon an officer in charge of the victim taken by a mob and the county in which the offense takes place.

The law provides that any person attempting to take from an officer a prisoner who has sought the protection of the court shall be punishable by a fine of not less than $10,000 and imprisonment for not more than ten years; that an officer in charge of a prisoner taken by a mob of three or more persons and lynched shall be subject to a fine of $5,000 or five years' imprisonment, and that the county where a lynching occurs shall be subject to the payment of $10,000 for the dependent family or the same sum to the state if there are no dependents. Any person or persons suspected of taking part in a lynching may be tried on a charge of murder.

With a law like this in force police officers, sheriffs or jailors will take greater precautions to keep a prisoner from falling into the hands of a lynching party, instead of making simply a show of resistance. Men who may feel inclined to take part in a lynching will think twice with a charge of murder in the first degree facing them, and taxpayers will not be inclined to stand idly by and see a man put to death by a mob. It is a drastic law, but justified by conditions that have existed of late in certain sections of the country. If the Southern states, where most of the lynchings occur, should enact a similar statute, there would be fewer outrages of this kind.

OKLAHOMA GOVERNOR WILL STOP MOBISM HE WRITES TO N. A. A. C. P.

New York, N. Y., June 16.—Governor Walton of Oklahoma, replying to a telegram sent him by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, with reference to the disorders at Sapulpa, has stated that there will be no mob violence in Oklahoma, if he can prevent it.

Governor Walton's letter, which was addressed to James Weldon Johnson, Secretary of the N. A. A. C. P., reads as follows:

May 28, 1923.

"Mr. James Weldon Johnson,
70 Fifth Avenue,
New York City, New York.

Sir—"On January 3rd you wired me relative to mob violence threatened against certain Colored citizens in the town of Sapulpa.

"While I am just now making formal acknowledgment of your telegram, permit me to assure you that while I am Governor in Oklahoma, I will do everything within my power to prevent mob violence against our citizens, and have so stated again and again in the press.

"Very respectfully,
(Signed)
"J. C. WALTON, Governor."

CONSTABLE BODY IN GA. IS URGED

State Police Would Be Useful at Savannah, Governor Says.

With information that rioting might result from the city election in Savannah and no means to prevent it until it was actually under way and the county officials had called for help, Governor Hardwick Tuesday stated that he will recommend the formation of a state constabulary to the next Legislature.

"If the State of Georgia had a constabulary, similar to that of Pennsylvania or Texas, the chief executive would be in a position to cope with such threatening situations," Governor Hardwick said. "Under the present laws the Governor is powerless to take steps to preserve order until after lawlessness has broken out and the county officials have admitted their inability to cope with the situation. By that time much innocent blood may have been spilled."

Governor Hardwick said his plans for a constabulary were immature but he would propose an organization based on civil service, and free from any politics or factionalism.

The Governor spoke of the soothing effect a Texas ranger has on exciting situations in the Lone Star State, and also referred to the record of the Pennsylvania constabulary in preserving order during strikes and other outbreaks.

"Situations have arisen in Georgia on several occasions during my term of office when a few members of a state constabulary could have held things in check," the Governor said. "It is possible that they might have prevented the necessity for sending troops to Waycross recently. Certainly they could have handled other threatening situations in Georgia."

Referring to the bombing of the homes of Syrians at Marietta, the Governor declared that a constabulary would help out there. He added that he will offer the highest reward possible in the Marietta case when called upon to do so by the Sheriff of Cobb County.

STRICTER LAWS ASKED BY GOVERNOR NEFF

Texas Chief Executive Outlines Policy in Address.

FLORESVILLE, Texas, Dec. 31.—Announcement of his intention to recommend to the state Legislature passage of laws tending to stricter law enforcement, covering 17 distinct angles, was made by Gov. Pat M. Neff tonight, in an address here, as follows:

"First, a law providing that felonies may be presented and prosecuted by filing a complaint as is now done in misdemeanor cases, thus making it possible, as it is in many states, to prosecute without the delay and necessity of a grand jury indictment; second, a short form, simplified complaint or indictment, charging the defendant in the language of the statutes with the commission at a certain time and place of a specified, indictable offense; third, permitting complaints or indictments to be amended as to formalities; fourth, a law that will give the prosecution the right to discuss and the jury to consider the fact that the defendant did not see fit, while on trial, to testify in his own behalf;

"Fifth, joint trial, at the discretion of the court, of all those jointly indicted; sixth, providing that reversals on appeal shall not be had for harmless technical error in no way touching the guilt or innocence of the defendant; seventh, repeal of the suspended sentence law; eighth, make it a violation of law with a penitentiary penalty to possess liquor, or mash or a still or any other device or equipment capable of making intoxicants. Let a person who has liquor or equipment on his person or premises be tried by the same rules of evidence you would try a person for carrying on or about his person concealed weapons.

"Ninth, make it a violation of law with a jail sentence for any person to be found in a public place under the influence of an intoxicating beverage; tenth, a law providing for the seizure and forfeiture of animals, automobiles, flying machines and other things of whatever character used for the transportation of intoxicants.

Aimed at Liquor Violators.

"Eleventh, prohibiting those from holding law-enforcement offices who drink intoxicants or violate any penal statute involving moral turpitude; twelfth, the passage of a law requiring every person elected or appointed to office to take an oath upon qualifying for office that he has not knowingly during the past year violated the liquor laws of Texas or of the United States and that he will not do so during his term of office;

"Thirteenth, a law providing for the speedy removal from office of an officer against whom it can be proven in open court that he has wilfully and corruptly failed or refused to enforce the law; fourteenth, more efficient and effective punishment for carrying concealed weapons; fifteenth, a law prohibiting the sale or lease of a pistol or the handling of ammunition for same, except such as may be used officially under government regulations; sixteenth, a law that will speed up the trial and final disposal of criminal cases; seventeenth, legislation that will give some law enforcing officer of the state authority to have, for the purpose of enforcing the law, district judges exchange benches for such time as may be designated not exceeding one term of court."

Bad Homicide Record.

The cheapest commodity in Texas is human life, the governor said, and that almost everything except that has risen in value.

"We averaged last year more than three homicides a day in Texas. We have in this state approximately 200 homicides a year to each million inhabitants. Italy has 95 to the million; France has 17 to the million; Germany, 12, Canada, five. More people were murdered in Texas, with a population of five million, last year, than were murdered in the British Empire with a population of 50 million, during the past 20 years. During recent years, London, with a population of approximately eight million people, averaged 24 murders a year; while Texas, with a population of only five million people, averaged more than 1,000 murders a year."

This contrast, he added, emphasizes the necessity for an immediate and effective remedy for the present laxity in the enforcement of law in Texas. There are too many killings and too few convictions in the state, he pointed out.

"In Germany 95 per cent of those who take human life are convicted, in Texas two per cent," he said. "In England few cases remain untried beyond 90 days and if the case is appealed it is passed on ordinarily within a month. It takes almost two years to dispose of the average hotly contested criminal case in Texas, and about half of them have to be tried the second time, at which trial the defendant, having worn out his case, is found not guilty."

Governor Neff then attacked what he termed "a large class of mush-headed, faint-hearted, sentimentalists, who when criminals are caught red-handed and while their fingers are still dripping with human blood greet them as heroes and heroines."

"This maudlin mania and sickening sentiment both in and out the jury box, that loses sight o truth and justice and right, and makes a hero out of every person who commits a crime is eclipsing the bright light of that resplendent star on the American flag that emblems forth the granduer and glory of Texas," he declared.

"No finer example can be had of criminal hero-worship than when a few months ago 7,028 persons in Bell County signed a petition that the governor either pardon or commute the death sentence adjudged by court and jury against George Hornsby," he continued.

"Hornsby was a young man, a deserter from the American army, went under an assumed name to avoid identity, a transient fellow without vocation, lived with a woman not his wife on a negro street in Brownwood, and for the purpose of robbery, murdered, if human testimony is to be believed, one of the substantial citizens of Brown County. That he might have an impartial trial, removed from local influence, the case was sent to Bell County. The jury assessed the death penalty, and from the evidence as I found it to be, any other verdict would have been a travesty on justice. No sooner was the verdict of guilty rendered than there was begun by men and women, among them the very best citizens of Bell County and the equal of those of any other county, a campaign closely resembling hero-worship of the convicted murderer.

"Reports stated that admiring hands brought to his cell the delicacies of life, flowers were strewn for him to walk on to the scaffold and fair women coveted the privilege of holding his hands while the black cap was being adjusted. By public contribution a costly casket was purchased and flowers piled high above his grave, even as the grave of one who had fallen in defense of his country.

"To these more than 7,000 petitioners I have made no apology then and I make none now. In the administration of the law, I am for the courthouse, its judgments, and its decrees. It is the one tribunal whose sole function is to make life sacred and property secure."

Lynchings — 1923
Legislation Relating to.

1334

MONTGOMERY, ALA., Journal

MAY 11 1923

STATE ANTI-LYNCH LAW

The state senate of Pennsylvania has passed a bill similar in some of its provisions to the Dyer anti-lynching bill, which makes lynching murder and imposes a fine of $10,000 on the county in which a lynching occurs, the money going to the victim's dependents. This measure is not open to the objections made by democrats to the Dyer bill, which would invest the police powers of the several states in the federal government, a clear violation of state rights.

Pennsylvania points the way for other states to follow in combatting the lynching evil. Every state of the union can, when public sentiment so wills, pass drastic laws which will strike at the indifference of public officials toward law enforcement.

If there were the reasonable assurance that the sheriff of a county who permits a mob to take away his prisoner and lynch him, would be held strictly accountable by the state, and the county in which the lynching occurred would forfeit $10,000 or more, an effective curb would be placed on mob violence.

N. Y. WORLD
MAY 24, 1923

PENNSYLVANIA'S ANTI-LYNCHING LAW.

Pennsylvania's new Anti-Lynching Law, which Gov. Pinchot has just signed, goes the limit in severity. It is wholesome legislation which other States to the general advantage might imitate.

By this law participation in lynching is made murder. No loophole is left for the escape from punishment of persons acting as members of a lynching party. The law also provides that any person attempting to take from an officer a prisoner who has sought the protection of the court shall be punishable by a fine of not less than $10,000 and imprisonment for not more than ten years; that an officer in charge of a prisoner taken by a mob of three persons and lynched shall be subject to a fine of $5,000 or five years' imprisonment, and that the county where a lynching occurs shall be subject to the payment of $10,000 for a dependent family, or the same sum to the State if there are no dependents.

Pennsylvania is not a State known for lynchings. But in the measure that it has adopted it has set a sound example to other States where mob murders are not infrequent and where little or nothing is done to prevent them, either because of the inadequacy of the laws or the failure of the authorities fearlessly to enforce them. Under the Pennsylvania statute no opportunity is left for falling back on the familiar fiction of the unwritten law as justification in any circumstances, as the county or the local community is held responsible for crimes committed within its borders. It is legislation that by its very precise provisions, if widely applied, should go far to stiffen public officers in resistance to all mobs bent on murder by lynching.

PHILADELPHIA BULLETIN
MAY 9, 1923

STATE ANTI-LYNCHING LAW

The House anti-lynching bill, sponsored by Representative STEVENS, which has just passed the Senate, aims to incorporate in the statutes of the Commonwealth protection for persons menaced with mob violence and punishment for such violence when committed, similar to that contemplated by the Dyer bill, which was abandoned in the Federal Senate in face of a filibuster. It makes participation in a lynching murder and penalizes the county in which a lynching takes place $10,000, to be paid to the heirs of the victim, or in default of such, to the Commonwealth.

Memory of the Coatesville lynching several years ago still is a reminder that such legislation is not wholly superfluous in this State. Every argument adduced for the passage of a Federal measure for the protection of life from mob violence in the event of State dereliction, is valid in behalf of similar law in Pennsylvania. The State should be prepared to meet any emergency and fulfill its duty toward all in its jurisdiction by protecting them from mob violence, penalizing the communities which tolerate it, and sharpening the sword of the law against those who take human life under the cowardly cover of the mob.

PENNSLYVANIA LEGISLATURE PASSES DYER ANTI-LYNCH BILL

The Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill, which was introduced in its original form and passed by the Pennsylvania House, has now passed the Senate of that State according to reports reaching the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. The bill as passed by the Pennsylvania Senate fines a county in which lynching occurs $10,000 to be paid the family of the victim.

NEW YORK CITY AMERICAN
MAY 23, 1923

ANTI-LYNCH BILL

SIGNED BY PINCHOT

Makes Mob Slyaing and Kidnaping Capital Offenses.

HARRISBURG, Pa., May 22.—The Stevens Anti-Lynching bill, making participation in lynching constitute murder, and the Ludlow bill, making kidnapping or an attempt to kidnap, which results in death, first degree murder, were signed by Governor Pinchot.

The Stevens measure provides also that any person who attempts to take from an officer a prisoner who has sought the protection of the court because of race prejudice or for other cause, may be fined $10,000 and imprisoned ten years, and any officer who has the custody of a prisoner taken by a mob and lynched shall be guilty of a felony and subject to a fine of $5,000 or five years' imprisonment. It also provides that every county in which a lynching occurs shall be subject to a forfeiture of $10,000 for the use of dependent family of to the State if the person put death has no dependents.

PENNSYLVANIA LEADS.

Governor Pinchot has just signed the most drastic anti-lynching law ever passed by a state legislature. And if it is not too drastic, and if other states besides Pennsylvania would enact similar laws there would not only be no excuse for the Dyer bill, or any other federal measure that seeks to tear down the rights of states, but the crime of lynching would be materially reduced.

It is something for the law-makers of Georgia, and every other state where mob violence has time and again disgraced the state, to think about, and perhaps emulate.

The new Pennsylvania law imposes a fine of $10,000 upon any county where a lynching takes place, the fine to be applied to relief of the family of the victim. It makes the officers of the law from whom a victim is taken and lynched guilty of a felony, with a penalty of five years' imprisonment, or a fine of $5,000. It makes those who participate in lynchings guilty of first degree murder. It also provides for a minimum fine of $10,000 and imprisonment for not more than ten years for attempt to take away from an officer a prisoner who has sought the protection of the courts.

These penalties may seem excessive, but it is just such legislation as this, rigidly enforced, that is necessary to cope with the lynching evil, and if the aroused public consciences of states where lynchings are prevalent do not meet the situation in this drastic manner the congress will pass a federal bill that will be one of the most serious blows at the old democratic doctrine of state rights ever known.

The proposition is not only to stop lynchings, which are relics of barbarism, but to sustain the integrity of the judiciary system. To break that down and government itself is destroyed; and the judiciary cannot be properly sustained as long as the mob system of "regulating" is tolerated.

The man, black or white, who is guilty of a capital offense against society is going to be apprehended and convicted and punished, according to law, and in an orderly, regular manner. The courts may sometimes move slow—too slow—but there is no other system of administering justice—of punishing the guilty and protecting the innocent.

Two wrongs have never yet made one right and never will. Law cannot be upheld by a system that violates law.

The strengthening of the orderly court system of trial, and conviction or acquittal upon unshakable evidence, is the only method of enforcing law, and of protecting society. To this end there should be no effort spared to make anti-mob laws so stringent that they may serve as practical deterrents, and thereby actually serve their useful and honorable purposes.

Times

JUN 13 1923

PENNSYLVANIA'S ANTI-LYNCHING LAW.

(New York World.)

Pennsylvania's new anti-lynch law, which Gov. Pinchot has just signed, goes the limit in severity. It is wholesome legislation which other states to the general advantage might imitate.

By this law participation in lynching is made murder. No loophole is left for the escape from punishment of persons acting as members of a lynching party. The law also provides that any person attempting to take from an officer a prisoner who has sought the protection of the court shall be punishable by a fine of not less than $10,000 and imprisonment for not more than ten years; that an officer in charge of a prisoner taken by a mob of three persons and lynched shall be subject to a fine of $5,000 or five years' imprisonment, and that the county where a lynching occurs shall be sub-

Pennsylvania is not a state known for lynchings. But in the measure that it has adopted it has set a sound example to other states where mob murders are not infrequent and where little or nothing is done to prevent them, either because of the inadequacy of the laws or the failure of the authorities fearlessly to enforce them. Under the Pennsylvania statute no opportunity is left for falling back on the familiar fiction of the unwritten law as justification in any circumstances, as the county or the local community is held responsible for crimes committed within its borders. It is legislation that by its very precise provisions, if widely applied, should go far to stiffen public officers in resistance to all mobs bent on murder by lynching.

Houston, Tex. Post

JUN 2 - 1923

Pennsylvania's Anti-Lynching Law

(From the New York World.)

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Pennsylvania's new law, which Governor Pinchot has just signed, imposes a fine of $10,000 upon the county in which a lynching takes place and provides that the fine shall be applied to the relief of the family of the victim. A penalty of five years' imprisonment or a fine of $5,000 is imposed on officers of the law from whom a victim is taken. It makes those who participate in lynchings guilty of first-degree murder. It provides for a minimum fine of $10,000 and imprisonment for not more than ten years for those who attempt to take away from an officer a prisoner who has sought the protection of the courts.

If any law can stop lynching this ought to do it. In commending this law, Southern papers probably see that if the States do not pass stringent laws aimed at this menace, Congress will eventually pass a Federal act that will be another blow at the doctrine of States' rights which may lead in turn to complications that ought to be avoided.

BUFFALO N Y NEWS
MAY 26, 1923

AN ANTI-LYNCHING LAW.

Pennsylvania, a state which has not been known for its mob murders, has adopted an anti-lynching law that might well serve as a model for other states where adequate statutes to check this evil are plainly needed.

Under the Pennsylvania act, persons convicted of participating in lynching are, ipso facto, guilty of murder. Those attempting to take a prisoner from the custody of an officer are liable to a fine of not less than $10,000 and imprisonment for not more than 10 years. An officer who releases his prisoner to be lynched will be subject to a $5000 fine and five years' imprisonment. Finally, the county in which a lynching occurs shall be subject to the payment of $10,000 for the dependent family of each man murdered by a mob, the money to go to the state if there are no dependents.

If Illinois had had such a law, there would have been no Herrin massacre. If the southern states had such a law, there soon would be an end of lynchings. It is a pattern that will serve all states. It is a law written to the proposition that every man is entitled to his day in court. It assures him that fundamental right.

UNIONTOWN PA EVE GENIUS
JUNE 16, 1923

A New Anti-Lynching Law

In the last forty years, Mississippi has had 484 lynchings, Georgia 481, Texas 487, and in the other Southern States the number ranged from 49 in West Virginia to 336 in Alabama. And still Americans rave about the inhuman Turks or the uncivilized bandits in Mexico and China!

It is significant that leading Southern papers are commending Pennsylvania's new anti-lynching law, and saying that if other States would enact similar laws there would be no excuse for the Dyer bill or any other Federal measure on lynching and that the crime of lynching would be greatly reduced.

There has been no recent lynching in Pennsylvania and there have been only six lynchings here in the past forty years. Yet the most drastic anti-lynching law ever passed by a Legislature has been enacted.

DYER PLANS TO PUSH ANTI-LYNCHING BILL

Missouri Representative Says He Will Press Congress to Pass Federal Measure.

WOULD FINE COUNTIES

Tells Negroes Here He Has Southern Support—Charges the Innocent Were Burned at Stake.

Representative Leonidas C. Dyer of Missouri yesterday told an anti-lynching mass meeting of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People at the Renaissance Casino, Seventh Avenue and 138th Street, that he would reintroduce his Federal Anti-Lynching bill at the next session of Congress. He said he had received editorials from Southern newspapers and letters from Southern women when his bill was before the last Congress stating that the passage of the bill was the only thing that could save the South from the "disgrace of lynching."

"The opposition to a Federal anti-lynching law is the mob," said Mr. Dyer, "and next, public officials from the lynching States. They say, let the States attend to this matter; that they understand the negro. We have let them handle this question to the disgrace and discredit of the country for thirty-five years. One State has had 500 lynchings in thirty-six years. The only thing done to punish the mob in thirty-six years was indictment of one man on the charge of unlawful assembly.

"When the prohibition amendment was added to the Constitution we provided means for prosecution of those who violated that amendment. We now propose the same thing for the Fourteenth Amendment.

"The United States is sending missionaries to the Far East. My Church has sent them, and when I asked what difficulties they met, they told me the thing that hurts most is to be told Christianity is not wanted; that under their own religions human beings are not burned at the stake.

"This Federal Anti-Lynching bill is designed to enforce the Fourteenth Amendment. States having refused to prosecute mobs, Federal courts will be given jurisdiction. This bill proposes to fine the people of a county in which a lynching takes place $10,000, to be paid to the family or dependents of the victim.

"I know from investigations and from facts given to me by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People that innocent people have been lynched. There has been no punishment or redress for 3,800 cases of mob murder listed by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. Southern women say it is a lie to assert these people went to their death because they had committed crimes against white women of the South."

The Dyer Bill

THE Negro has to all intents and purposes forgotten the Dyer Bill. On the other hand, Mr. Dyer, its author, is touring the country calling the attention of the nation to the imperative demand for this moral measure. If there is any clearly differentiated method of the white man as compared with the Negro it is to be found in his spirit of indomitable determination and self-reliance. Now is the time of all times for the Negro to focus upon whatever legislative relief the race may hope to gain from the next Congress. After the issues have been set and the platform has been written it is too late to inject special demands or to expect favorable consideration of our special grievances. The whole race should busy itself with the formulation of some plan of national check and control of lawlessness. The next Congress will only devote itself to those measures which are demanded by the people. The presidential election will be imminent. The Administration will be over-anxious about its stewardship to the American people. If the Negro expects any legislative advantage, he should formulate it now. I suggest that our civil rights organizations proceed at once to have a suitable measure drawn and presented at the opening of the next Congress. Whatever influence it can command should be brought to bear upon the political organization bidding for his suffrage. The American Bar Association should be asked to formulate a measure enabling the federal government to deal wtih lawlessness. This legal body could and doubtless would be able and willing to frame such a measure that would stand the test of constitutional objections. We should not sleep upon our rights and privileges and as usual, wake only when it is too late. Let us rather imitate Mr. Dyer and take time by the forelock.

DYER SPEAKS TO THREE THOUSAND

TELLS NEGROES TO REBUKE REPUBLICANS WHO DODGE THE LYNCHING BILL—CALLED MEN BY NAME WHO FAILED TO DO THEIR DUTY.

(By The Associated Negro Press)

Chicago, Ill., June 7.—"I think the colored voters of the Northern States should defeat every senator who did not do his duty when the Anti-Lynching legislation was before Congress," said Representative L. C. Dyer addressing 3,000 people at a mass meeting at Pilgrim Baptist Church, this city, Monday night. Mr. Dyer appearing under the auspices of the N. A. A. C. P. spoke for two hours detailing the crime of lynching in the United States and pledging himself to continue to fight for legislation curbing it. "The value of publicity was never shown to better advantage," remarked a prominent colored citizen as he watched 1,000 turned away from the church unable to get in. Mr. Dyer through his activities in a good cause has had a million dollars worth of publicity. He has become a national figure and is proving to be the best attraction the N. A. A. C. P. has put before the public. Before three overflow audiences in Chicago he delivered addresses. Chicagoans were startled when he stated that Senator McCormack was in Europe when the time came to vote on the measure, while Senator McKinley also of this state, was likewise in Europe attending a meeting for international peace when the big work was in progress. "I believe in peace throughout the world," he declared, "but I think we ought to provide it at home first, and he was cheered by the large throng.

The Congressman stressed the part the colored people themselves and the colored press must play in putting the bill over and promised to present it again in December. Dr. Charles Bentley presided while local Secretary Morris Lewis was responsible for the success of the great meeting.

Dyer Concludes Anti-Lynch Tour

Representative L. C. Dyer, of Missouri, sponsor of the Federal Anti-Lynching Bill bearing his name has concluded the western speaking tour arranged for him and financed by branches of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

His last three meetings were held in Indianapolis, Detroit and Toledo. During this tour, Representative Dyer spoke in 18 cities and 13 far western states, directly reaching it is estimated more than 25,000 people in his audiences.

Mr. Dyer's speeches have vitalized the people everywhere he has been and brought more to the fore as a national issue. He has done much to prepare us for the new legislative battle for the bill, which is now before us.

Lynchings—1923
Legislation Relating to

1335

Ex-Gov. Dorsey Deplores Failure of the Dyer Bill

Atlanta Independent

New York, Jan. 5.—In a letter written to the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, and made public today at 70 Fifth avenue, Ex-Governor Hugh M. Dorsey, of Georgia, states his belief that the federal government cannot long delay taking cognizance of the lynching situation in America, and deplores the failure to pass the Dyer Anti-Lynching bill in the senate, where it was held up recently by a filibuster of Southern senators. Mr. Dorsey's letter is in part as follows:

"I am disappointed that the United States congress did not pass the Dyer Anti-Lynching bill.

"The states have had ample opportunity to pass laws for the suppression of this evil, and have failed to take adequate steps. I very much hope that now the states will exercise their rights, but I have little hope that this will be the case. I cannot believe that the federal government can long delay taking cognizance of the situation, and indeed I hope they will not. Certain it is that the federal government should do something, if the states in the future fail as in the past."

The state of Georgia was second among lynching states for 1922 having 11, Texas being first, with 16.

PHILADELPHIA BULLETIN
JANUARY 17, 1923
E LIGHT ON LYNCHINGS

FRELINGHUYSEN'S introduction of a resolution calling for an unpartisan presidential commission to investigate lynching and propose remedial legislation follows out his pledges to constituents and gives earnest of continuing agitation of the national scandal in Congress.

The Dyer bill, which would have provided penalties for those participating in lynchings, or State and local officials failing to prevent them, is not likely to be brought up again in the present Congress. It was sacrificed to put an end to obstructive tactics by a hostile minority.

But lynchings continue. The present year was not three days old before mob killings were reported from Florida, Mississippi and Louisiana. State and local authority, which the objectors to the Dyer bill declared competent to deal with the situation, still appears ineffective in making those who are responsible amenable to law. State rights are evidenced more in the neglect of corrective measures than in their application.

There will have to be Federal legislation, sooner or later. Rioting and murder cannot be tolerated by a law-abiding nation because local authorities are either powerless or unwilling to prevent it. While lack of information was not responsible for the failure of the Dyer bill, such a study as that proposed by the New Jersey Senator would keep attention focussed on the need of Federal action, and even if it should result only in reiteration would not be labor lost.

The Dyer Howard Triangle

The Dyer Anti-... Bill is temporarily dead. That is no fault of the A. A. C. P., nor of James Weldon Johnson, its secretary, who worked indefatigable and intelligently for it. That the bill had merit may be deduced from its opposition. Your enemies don't usually oppose your measures unless those measures affect them unfavorably.

It was argued that if passed the bill would not stop lynching. Neither do laws against murder, burglary, arson and other crimes stop those respective crimes. The laws do deter, diminish and punish violations. The same argument could be presented with greater force against the Prohibition laws, and with equal force against all laws.

The Republicans are responsible for the bill's defeat. No one expected anything from the lynch-law Democrats. Had they voted any other way they would have misrepresented their constituents. Not so with the Republicans. They have a comfortable majority, large numbers of Negro constituents and white constituents who more largely believe in law and order than in mob violence. The Republicans just yielded to the mobocratic, Democratic South.

That a Negro from Mississippi like Perry Howard should have used his influence to try to defeat the bill (of course he had no power to defeat or to pass it) is reprehensible. The Pittsburgh *Courier* very aptly calls him "Pat's Perry," meaning that this Negro is the handy man of Senator Pat Harrison, of Mississippi. It is true, too, that no Negro whom Senator Pat Harrison, of Mississippi, would O. K. is worth a "tinker's damn."

We have received Perry Howard's reply to James Weldon Johnson. We read it carefully. It is weak, petty, personal, not convincing. The apology is worse than the offense. The Negroes of the country should mark this hat-in-hand Negro from Mississippi, and hereafter class him along with Marcus Garvey. Both are liabilities whose room is more desirable than their company.

N Y C WORLD
JANUARY 11, 1923
STATE PROTECTION AGAINST LYNCHING.

To the Editor of The World:

When the Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill failed of enactment in the United States Senate the Atlanta Georgian made the following editorial statement: "Now that the Dyer bill is dead, it is distinctly up to the States to make good the promises and professions of their Senators and Representatives, which are that the States themselves will settle this problem, settle it right and for all time, if left to themselves. Here is a chance to vindicate State rights and to preserve the great principle involved therein—so long cherished as a vital thing in the South."

A number of other newspapers made similar statements, among them the Raleigh News and Observer, Charleston Post, Savannah News, Atlanta Constitution, Asheville Citizen and the Asheville Times.

How have the Southern States lived up to their opportunity?

In the first three days of 1923 there were three lynchings, not one of the victims being accused of "the usual crime" of rape. The lynchings occurred in the States of Florida, Mississippi and Louisi... In addition an unknown number of Negroes w... killed in Florida in a riot following the lynching one of their number. So far as is known no effo... has been made in any of these States to apprehend o... punish the lynchers.

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People can only urge you most earnestly to call these facts to the attention of your readers as one of the most dangerous symptoms of lawlessness now apparently raging unchecked in the South by reason of the failure to pass the Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill in the Senate.

We have telegraphed the above facts to each of the above-named newspapers asking for an expressio... from them. JAMES W. JOHNSON,
Secretary National Association for the Advancemen... of Colored People.
New York, Jan. 5.

Good Government League Is Formed By Savannahans

1/23/23.

Atlanta

Organization Meeting at City Auditorium Called by Seabrook Followers.

Atlanta Ga.

Savannah, Ga., January 22.—(Special.)—With a "standing room only" audience in the municipal auditorium tonight, the crowd being estimated at 4,000, a permanent "good government league" for Savannah and Chatham county was formed, with Judge A. B. Lovett, president; Mrs. Paschal Strong and T. Arthur Gordon, vice presidents; Miss Stella Aikin, secretary, and W. M. Hopkins, treasurer. Practically the entire audience signified its desire to join.

The occasion was called by Seabrook's leaders, but many who took no part in the recent mayor's contest and not a few former Stewart supporters were present. The league was avowedly non-partisan and will not tolerate participating in any personal or party or faction fights.

Its objects are: To effect a bona-fide, full registration list for city and county; to bring about conditions in which there shall be absolutely clean elections, with proper primary laws and election laws to handle illegal voting and ringing and buying and selling of votes; and to support fair and honest administration government.

REPORT WOULD BE BASIS OF LEGISLATION

Baltimore Herald

Washington, D. C., Jan.—By the terms of a joint resolution offered by Senator Joseph S. Frelinghuysen, Republican, of New Jersey, a Federal Commission on Lynching, composed of five commissioners appointed by the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, would be established.

Baltimore

This commission would inquire into the subject of lynchings in the United States over a period of one year, and report thereon to the President and to the Congress. It would have power to subpoena witnesses and compel them to testify by invoking the aid of any United States Court. This general inquiry would provide Congress with official information upon which to base legislation to prevent lynchings.

Baltimore Herald

Section ... of the resolution which is the most salient and sets forth the purpose of the commission is as fol-

lows. 1-24-23.

"Sec. 2. That for the purpose of advising and providing information for Congress in matters of legislation which will prevent lynching and insure to all persons hte equal protection of the laws and provide for the better enforcement of our treaties relating to the protection of aliens, the commission shall conduct a general inquiry into the subject of lynchings in the United States, including the number occurring, the causes thereof, the adequacy of methods now used to prevent lynchings, and the advisability of additional legislative and administrative remedies for ther avoidance. The commission shall report thereon to the Congress and to the President at such times as it deems advisable and shall make to the Congress and to the President a final report not later than one year after the passage of this resolution."

The other sections prescribe the power of the commissino in securing evidence, the employment of aides and the general expense for its operation.

ROCHESTER N Y POST EXPRE
JANUARY 17, 1923

A Proposed Lynching Inquiry.

Senator Frelinghuysen has introduced a resolution providing for a commission to investigate the subject of lynching. It would have a commission of five, to serve without pay, with $50,000 for expenses, to study fully the subject of lynching, its causes and remedies and to make recommendations for legislation. The commission would be named by the President.

While "something should be done" about lynching, it is doubtful if any Federal law will accomplish anything of value. The proposed commission can hardly find out anything about lynching that is not already known. Lynching is the result of ignorance and bloodthirstiness. To say that it is the result of race prejudice is probably not entirely accurate, for the lynchers themselves live in harmony with most of their neighbors except when the lust for blood overpowers them. That reports of some lynchings tell us of participation in the mob murders by the "best citizens" is true, but it is difficult to believe that the best citizens of the South are as bloodthirsty or as lawless as the members of lynching mobs must be. Lynchers are the ignorant and the vicious in the South, where lynching is most frequent, as they are in the sporadic cases of lynching which occur in the North.

One ground for belief in the inefficacy of Federal law to deal with lynching is that lynching can flourish only in communities in which the majority of the people are in sympathy with it. If they are not sufficiently opposed to lynching to prevent it by the force of public sentiment or by local, that is, state, laws backed by such sentiment, no law framed by a government as far away from the lynching belt as Washington, and enforced locally by a few men, compared to the number ordinarily employed in enforcing a state law, will do so.

Lynching rests upon public sentiment. When that is opposed to the crime, then the people will have officials that will enforce the laws against murder by lynchers just as they will the laws against other kinds of murder, because they will feel that they are backed by the people. Then we shall have an end of lynching. We shall have an end of it, however, without investigation or legislation, Federal or state, when the benefits of education shall have been distributed among the common people of those parts of the country that are disgraced by the crime.

TOPICS OF THE TIMES.
New York Times

Much Like Licensing Violences.

Latest to attack, or to allow himself to be used as the instrument with which to attack, the State Police is Senator LACEY, Democrat, of Buffalo, who has introduced a bill which, if passed, would forbid the summoning of the troopers to suppress disorder arising from industrial troubles in cities except by the action of Boards of Aldermen. 2-8-23

This measure is backed by the New York State Federation of Labor. By depriving the Governor of his present power to send the troopers wherever he thinks they are needed as auxiliaries of the local police, and taking from Mayors that of telling the Governor when they think such aid is desirable, it would prevent, in effect and almost always, the use of this force for the restoration of order and the protection of life and property when strikers had resorted to violence. For in any of the larger cities the Aldermen would be more than slow to see the need of doing a thing sure to be unpopular with a large and well-organized body of voters and sure to be punished when election day next came around.

The passage of this bill, therefore, would differ little from an announcement of permission to strikers to do whatever they please so long as they do not exceed the limits of toleration and sympathy set by the policemen—or by the Aldermen—of the city where a war with a corporation or private employers is in progress. If to do that is commendable, then the Lacey bill should be passed; otherwise it should be beaten for what it undoubtedly is—an effort to prevent effectual interference with strikers who are taking the only measures by which a good many strikes can be made successful.

In practical operation it not infrequently would be a license to take such measures—to treat strike-breakers with whatever severity might be required to drive them away or to render their employment unprofitable.

Legal Lynching and the Constitution 3/21/23

The new Republic

IN our own account last week of the decision by the Supreme Court in the case of the five Arkansas Negroes who were condemned to death for the alleged murder of Clinton Lee, we were unable on account of space to discuss the significance of the decision. It seems to many lawyers very much like a reversal of the Frank decision a few years ago. In the Frank case the Supreme Court was faced with facts fully as strong as in Morse vs. Dempsey, but refused to interfere. It declared that the requirements of the due process clause were satisfied where the trial preserved the forms of law and where there was adequate appellate machinery for correcting errors. Justices Holmes and Hughes dissented from this decision, saying that it was the duty of the Court

> to declare lynch law as little valid when practiced by a regularly drawn jury as when administered by one elected by a mob intent on death,

no matter what the Supreme Court of a state may have said.

This view seemed to us at the time and seems now to be correct. The proceedings in the trial court, being in violation of the Constitution, were wholly void and neither the forms of law nor the review by an upper court could give them validity. Now by the intervention of death, resignations and a change of view by two judges, the Court is not the action of the state but of a mob, and the Court has often decided that the Fourteenth Amendment is not a guarantee against the acts of individuals but only against those of state governments. The Amendment therefore guarantees nothing. If one gets a judicial lynching, that is legally unassailable, and if one gets an ordinary lynching the Amendment does not apply. Justice Holmes has rescued the Court from this absurd position. By stating what the Fourteenth Amendment requires, he has written an opinion which will rank with those in which he has stated what it does not require.

STEVENS ANTI-MOB MEASURE PASSES LOWER BRANCH OF PENNA. STATE BODY

Bill Unanimously Supported by Democrats — One Republican Opposed

Special to Pittsburgh American

HARRISBURG, Pa., April 27.—After four hours debate which carried last night's session into the early morning hours, the Stevens' Anti-Lynching Bill passed the House of Representatives with only one negative vote against it April 19. So tense was the interest in this measure, as evidenced by the crowd in attendance which packed every available space, that the result of the balloting came as a great surprise.

So skilfully had the author of this remedial legislation engineered this measure that every amendment proposed was defeated. The bill is almost the replica of the Dyer Bill, as it was originally introduced in Congress. The only difference is that it is made applicable to the State.

Every Democrat Supported Bill

The entire Democratic delegation of forty-three (43) members voted for the Stevens' Bill. The only one negative vote was cast by a Republican. The bill goes to the Senate next Wednesday for final passage, and will soon become a law, as Governor Pinchot is strongly urging the measure.

Representative Andrew F. Stevens, the author of the bill, is a member of the well known Philadelphia Banking Firm of Brown and Stevens. He is one of the most popular men in public affairs, and it the recipient of praise from all classes for his remarkable tact and efficiency as a law maker. Already he is being mentioned for higher legislative honors.

Lynchings—1923.
Legislation Relating to.

Dyer Bill.

1336

Anti-Lynching Bill First On House Calendar

Now In Hands Of The Judiciary Committee

As the Sixty-eighth United States Congress convened, and the law makers start on their arduous task, the Dyer Anti-lynching Bill has found its place as House Bill No. 1.

Mr. Dyer introduced his bill in the House of Rperesentatives, Dec. 5, and the same was referred to Committee on Judiciary and was ordered printed.

The following is a copy of the bill introduced by Mr. Dyer, which is intended to make the crime of lynching a Federal offense.

12-26-23

A Bill.

To assure persons within the jurisdiction of every State the equal protection of the laws, and to punish the crime of lynching.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the phrase "mob or riotous asemblage," when used in this Act, shall mean an assemblage composed of three or more persons acting in concert for the purpose of depriving any person of his life without authority of law as a punishment for or to prevent the commission of some actual or suppsed public offense.

Sec. 2.—That if any State or governmental subdivision thereof fails, neglects or refuses to provide and maintain protection to the life of any person within its jurisdiction against a mob or riotous assemblage, such State shall by reason of such failure neglect, or refusal be deemed to have denied to such person the equal protection of the laws of the State, and to the end that such protection as is guaranteed to persons within the jurisdictions of the several States, or to citizens of the United States, by the Constitution of the United States may be secured, it is provided.

Sec 3.—That any State or municipal officer charged with the duty or who possesses the power of authority as such officer to protect the life of any person that may be put to death by any mob or riotous assemblage, or who has any such person in his charge as a prisoner who fails or neglects or refuses to make all reasonable efforts to prevent such person from being put to death, or any State or municipal officer charged wtih the duty of apprehending or prosecuting to final judgment under the laws of such State all persons so participating except such, if any, as are or have been held to answer for such partcipation in any district court of the United States as herein provided, shall be guilty of a felony, and upon conviction thereof shall be punished by imprisonment not exceeding five years or by a fine of not exceeding $5,000, or by both fine and imprisonment.

Any State or municipal officer acting as such officer under authority of State law, having in his custody or control a prisoner, who shall conspire, combine, or confederate with any person to put such prisoner to death without authority of law as a punishment for some alleged public offense, or who shall conspire, combine or confederate with any person to suffer suc hprisoner to be taken or obtained from his custody or control for the purpose of being put to death without authority of law as a punishment for an alleged public offense, shall be guilty of a felony, and those who so conspire, combine, or confederate with such officer shall likewise be guilty of a felony. On conviction the parties participating therein hsall be punished by imprisonment for life or not less than five years.

Sec. 4.—That the district court of the judicial district wherein a person is put to death by a mob or riotous assemblage shall have jurisdiction to try and punish, in accordance with the laws of the State where the homicide is committed, those who participate therein: Provided, That it is first made to appear to such court thatthe officers of the State charged with the duty of prosecuting such offense under the laws of the State fail, neglect or refuse to apprehend or punish such participants, or that the jurors obtainable for service in the State Court having jurisdiction of the offense are so strongly opposed to such punishment that there is no reasonable probability that those guilty ofthe offense can be punished in such State court. A failure for more than thirty days after the commission of such an offense to apprehend the persons guilty thereof shal lbe prima facie evidence of such failure, neglect or refusal.

Sec. 5.—That any county in which a person is put to death by a mob or riotous assemblage shall forfeit $10,000, which sum may be recovered by an action therefor in the name of the United States against such county for the use of the family, if any, of the person so put to death; if he had no family, then to his dependent parents, if any; otherwise for the use of the United States. Such actio nshall be brought and prosecuted by the district attorney of the United States of the district in which such county is situated in any court of the United States having jurisdiction therein If such forfeiture is not paid upon recovery of a judgment therefor, such court, shall have jurisdiction to enforce payment thereof by levy of execution upon any property of the county, or any property of the county, or may compel payment thereof by mandamus or other appropriate process; and any officer of such county or other person who disobeys or fails to comply with any lawful order of the court in the premises shall be liable to punishment as for contempt and to any other penalty provided by law thereof.

Sec. 6.—That i nthe event that any person so put to death shall have been transported by such mob or riotous assemblage from one county to another county during the time intervening between his capture and putting to death, the county in which he is seized and the county in which he is put to death shall be jointly and severally liable to pay the forfeiture herein provided.

Sec. 7.—That any act committed in any State or Territory of the United States, in violation of the rights of a citizen or subject of a foreign country secured to such citizen or subject by treaty between the United States and such foreign country, which act constitutes a crime under the laws of such State or Territory, shall constitute a like crime against the peace and idgnity of the United States, punishable in like manner as in the courts of said State or Territory, and within the period limited by the laws of such State or Territory, and may be prosecuted in the courts of the United States, and upon conviction the sentence executed in like manner as sentences upon convictions for crimes under the laws of the United States.

Sec 8.—That in construing and applying this Act the District of Columbia shall be deemed a county, as shall also each of the parishes of the State of Louisiana.

That if any section or provision of htis Act shall be held by any court to be invalid, the balance of the Act shall not for that reason be held invalid.

PUSH THE ANTI-LYNCHING LAW

Already, the country is enjoying the benefits of the contemplated Anti-lynch law, as is shown by the reduction of lynchings in 1923 to 26 cases against 61 in 1922. The South, in which most of the lynchings occur, is beginning to wake up to the fact that Mr. Dyer is in dead earnest about putting a stop to lynching; and the government of the country is beginning to realize that mob-law is the greatest menace from which any civilization has suffered.

There is a great need for such a law. Its moral effect would go a long way toward stamping out mob violence. The several States have shown that they were either indifferent to, or incapable of protecting life and property against the blood thirsty mobs. Therefore, it is the bounden duty of the government to act.

Too long already have the several States been allowed to ignore the provision of the Federal Constitution. So now is the time for Congress to hurry up with appropriate legislation to assure every citizen the equal protection of the laws.

Lynchings—1923
Legislation Relating to 1338

Dyer Bill (National)

1338

WHAT SOUTHERN WHITE EDITORS SAY ABOUT DYER BILL FAILURE; ASK STATES TO STOP LYNCH LAW

The Houston Informer

(By the Associated Negro Press.)

1/23/23

Now that the Dyer bill is dead, it is distinctly up to the states to make good the promises and professions of their senators and representatives, which is that the states themselves will settle this problem, settle it right and for all time, if left to themselves. Here is a chance to vindicate "state rights" and to preserve the great principle involved therein—so long cherished as a vital thing in the South.—Atlanta Georgian.

With the Dyer bill out of the way and the states left in control of law enforcement, it is incumbent upon the authorities of every state to see to it that life is sacred and that those guilty of murder singly or in mobs are brought to justice. Our representatives were right in holding that the South would itself protect its Negro population and that the law was unnecessary. It is incumbent upon us to show that they were right in that representation. The duty already resting upon the South was thus emphasized. It is the duty of all good citizens and all officials to preserve the good name of the South by standing for the orderly processes of the law and the outlawing of lynching.—Raleigh News and Observer.

The Dyer bill is a symptom of which the states would do well to take serious account. The crime of lynching is a disgrace and a danger to the whole nation and the states must find a way to put an end to it. If they do not show their capacity to deal with this evil, ultimately some measure of the general character of the Dyer bill will be enacted by a stretching of the Constitution.—Charleston Post.

On the face of the ostensible cause of the surrender of the measure, there is a challenge to the states in which lynchings occur. The "surrender" of the Dyer bill advocates ought to make the anti-lynching law more effective in every state—not a federal law, but the already ample state law, if citizens so will it, can meet and master the mob spirit. The challenge is upon the states, which properly stand upon their rights; the stamping out of lynching is put upon the honor, the pride, the character of the people of the several states.—Savannah News.

The Dyer bill has failed of enactment, but if lynching and mob outlawry is permitted to continue to shock the conscience and sensibilities of the American people from time to time, it is as certain as the coming of tomorrow that sooner or later a means will be found whereby the forces of federal law will be invoked to put an end to it.—Atlanta Constitution.

Lynching is a question that should be taken up by the states. That is preferable. But something must be done that will put an end to murder by mobs. If it cannot be done—if it is not done—then our boasted civilization is spurious, counterfeit, a fraud.—Knoxville Tribune.

The remedy is with the states, but unquestionably, if they do not exercise their rights and meet their duties in putting down mob violence, their powers will finally be forfeited and those who say that democratic government is only a beautiful dream will be justified by the establishment of a monarchy in form, whatever may be its name.—Asheville Citizen.

In their assaults on the Dyer anti-lynching bill the Southern members of Congress asserted that the South is able to cope with the mob evil. The South can put an end to lynching once it sets its hands determinedly to the task. It should tackle this problem in dead earnest and show that its statesmanship is equal to the situation. We cannot hope that filibusters will always be effective in defeating the enactment of a federal anti-lynching law. There is only one safe way to forestall such action and that way is to be found in the stern handling of lynching parties by Southern courts.—Asheville Times.

N. A. A. C. P. CHALLENGES SOUTHERN EDITORS.

Challenging the editors of Southern newspapers who had claimed the failure of the Dyer anti-lynching bill as an opportunity for the South to justify state rights, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People made public the following telegram, stating that three unpunished lynchings had occurred in the first three days of the new year, in the states of Florida, Mississippi and Louisiana, not one of the victims being accused of rape.

The telegram was sent to the editors of the Atlanta Georgian, Raleigh (S. C.) News and Observer, Charleston (S. C.) Post, Savannah (Ga.) News, Asheville (N. C.) Times, and is as follows:

To the Editor:

Commission on Inter-Racial Co-operation quotes you as saying editorially that failure of Dyer anti-lynching bill makes it incumbent on the states to justify state rights by putting down lynching. Three lynchings occurred in first three days of 1923, in Florida, Mississippi and Louisiana. Not one of victims was accused of rape. So far as reported not one lyncher has been arrested or proceeded against. May we have your suggestion for a way in which Southern states may assume their responsibility and justify state rights by putting down mob and murder in view of above facts and thirty years' failure to deal with lynching. It seems to us your editorial commits you to some further statement. We shall be glad to have you telegraph us at our expense.

(Signed) JAMES WELDON JOHNSON,
Secretary, National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

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is my belief that this measure can never be enacted into law as long as the Democrats take the position they do and the Senate rules remain the same. Unless there is a majority rule, the Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill cannot and will not pass.

"The Republican leaders have honestly and honestly attempted to bring it before the Senate. The Democrats started a well-organized filibuster, openly stating that they were against it and as long as that filibuster was kept up, it was impossible to pass the bill. Therefore, we were at the mercy of the Democrats.

"I prepared a resolution for the purpose of authorizing a Commission to study the subject and suggest legislation in another form than the Dyer Bill, but having the same effect which would give the relief so much desired. It was not a question of substituting this resolution for the Dyer Bill. In its present form, that measure cannot pass and it was my earnest endeavor to accomplish something practical which led to the introduction of this resolution."

The resolution authorizes the President to appoint with the consent of the Senate a commission of five to serve without pay for one year "for the purpose of advising and providing information for Congress in matters of legislation which will prevent lynching and insure to all persons equal protection of laws."

The commission would have the power to summon witnesses and take testimony under oath. It would also be given $50,000 with which to carry on its work.

Woman to Present Anti-Lynching Bill

Wilmington Evening Journal
Wilmington, Del.
1-18-23

MADISON, Ga., Feb. 7.—Mrs. J. I. Fitzpatrick, of Madison, Ga., formerly president of the Georgia State Federation of Women's Clubs, and now a director for life of the state organization, is a member of a committee which is drafting an anti-lynching bill to be presented to the state legislature at its next session. The chairman of the committee is Judge Samuel B. Adams, of Savannah, and other members are Judge Cobb of Athens, and the Hon. Marvin Underwood of Atlanta, former assistant Attorney-General of the United States.

TRIBUNE
JANUARY 17, 1923

Make an End of Lynchings

The only effective method of getting at the facts concerning lynchings is by establishing a Federal investigating commission, such as is provided for in the bill introduced into the Senate by Mr. Frelinghuysen. State authorities are either unwilling or powerless to search out and disclose the truth. Even in the most aggravated cases offenders go unpunished because evidence against them is never gathered.

If full publicity had been given to every lawless outrage perpetrated

FRELINGHUYSEN SAYS DYER BILL CANNOT PASS

Afro-American
2-9-23

N. J. Senator Advocates Commission to Investigate Lynching in Order To 'Accomplish Something'

AT MERCY OF DEMOCRATS

Senate Must Change Rules or Suggest Dyer Bill In Another Form

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Washington, D. C., Feb. 6.—Thoroly in earnest in introducing a resolution in the Senate authorizing a commission to investigate lynching, Senator Frelinghuysen (Rep., N. J.) told the AFRO-AMERICAN today that this was the only practical way to get anti-lynching legislation.

The Senator said:

"I have been very earnest in my support of the Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill.

"I have tried to find some way whereby we could accomplish the result which all good men desire for the colored race. Hdwever, it

oy mobs in the various states, the Dyer bill, which provided what appeared to be a remedy for lynching, could not have been defeated, as it was, by a filibuster in the Senate.

What is needed before Congress will pass such a measure as this is a campaign which will bring home to all the people the peril to law and order of violent and illegal procedure against people suspected—and too often unjustly suspected—of crime.

Lynchings are by no means localized. They occur in both Northern and Southern states, and their victims are white men as well as colored men. Wherever they occur they are a reflection on the government of the states and a confession of the weakness of law enforcement. It is clear, however, that the states cannot be depended upon to check them, for there has been no decrease in the number of cases of late years. A Federal law is necessary, and no Federal law can be enacted until public opinion is aroused to the vital necessity of putting an end to lynchings.

Sheriffs and Mobs.

The Kansas Senate has passed a bill to make peace officers criminally responsible for mob activities in their districts. It provides prison terms of two to five years for the authorities found culpable in failing to suppress riots. Sheriffs or police heads generally may be dismissed from office for willful failure to enforce the peace, but the Kansas Senate apparently deems that too light a penalty.

This is a variant of the principle of the Dyer bill that failed in the present Congress. Representative DYER wanted to assess fines on counties where lynchings took place, thus holding the community responsible for choosing determined officers.

Those skilled in police work know that frequently it is not a difficult thing to head off a mob if action is taken at the right time—that is, before disorder gains organized momentum. Few of Kansas's Sheriffs are trained peace officers, and one suspects that inability to stop mobs is due to lack of knowledge in handling them as often as to reluctance to combat them.

The proposed measure may [illegible] late study of scientific methods of keeping the peace. At any rate, it is likely to help reduce mob violence, which, while rare in Kansas, is one of the worst disgraces to American

N Y C SUN
FEBRUARY 5, 1923

U. S ROUSED TO LYNCHINGDANGER

new York news

Arkansas Riot Victims' Case Carried Before U. S. Supreme Court

1-6-23

The American nation is roused to the horror and danger of lynching mobism as it has never been before, according to the 1922 annual report of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, 70 Fifth avenue, New York, of which the following summary was made public today.

In the South

In the South, where ten years ago only a few solitary individuals dared oppose lynching and where the crime was commonly condoned by influential newspapers, public officials and ministers of the gospel, there is now widespread opposition to mob murder. The opponents of lynching now include such powerful organs as the Atlanta Constitution, the Greensboro, N. C., Daily News, the Macon, Ga., Telegraph, the Houston, Texas, Post, and the San Antonio, Texas, Express. Powerful groups of white women in Georgia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Alabama, Virginia, Tennessee and Texas have publicly repudiated the lynching mob as a "protector of womanhood," and such courageous men as the Rev. Dr. M. Ashby-Jones of Atlanta, Gov. John M. Parker of Louisiana and ex-Gov. Hugh M. Dorsey of Georgia have gone before the country as opposing the mob.

The Campaign Against Lynching

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, eight years ago, began a concentrated campaign against lynching by the raising of an Anti-Lynching Fund of $10,000. Since then, by public meetings addressed in all parts of the country, by pamphlet publications, newspaper publicity, personal investigations of lynchings and published reports of the investigators, the facts have been placed before the entire civilized world and gradually a public sentiment has been formed which is demanding the olition of "The Shame of America." is work has been accomplished at a total expenditure of some $40,000 in ten years.

The $6,980.93 spent for advertising was contributed for the specific purpose by the Anti-Lynching Crusaders, the American Fund for Public Service and a number of individuals. The advertisement was intended to put the essential facts about lynching before the greatest number of American citizens possible and to correct some of the false ideas about the causes of lynching.

The combined circulation of the pub lications in which the advertisemen appeared was more than 2,000,000. It is estimated that upwards of 5,000,000 people were reached by the Advancement Association's advertising.

The consensus of opinion is that this advertisement was the greatest single stroke of propaganda ever struck in behalf of justice to the Negro.

The temporary setback on the Dyer bill in no way affects the determination of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People to continue the fight on this issue until lynching in America is stamped out.

Defense of Arkansas Peonage Victims

Defense of twelve Arkansas colored peonage victims, first sentenced to death in 1919 in connection with the riots in which 250 Negroes were killed, has been carried by the Advancement Association to the United States Supreme Court, where the cases will be argued early this year. The cases of six of the twelve men have gone to the Supreme Court after passing through four State and federal courts, and the men were saved after twice being sentenced to death and five times having dates for their execution set. In the other six cases, through action of the association's attorneys, the Arkansas Supreme Court twice reversed the verdict of guilty of the Phillips County Circuit Court. After the second reversal the association's attorneys obtained a change of venue. On four occasions date for retrial was set, but on each of these occasions the State of Arkansas announced it was unready for trial. The association's attorneys are striving to obtain the release of the condemned men under the statute of limitations.

Before the United States Supreme Court the association and the men will be represented by Moorfield Storey, ex-president of the American Bar Association, who is now president of the N. A. A. C. P., and by Scipio A. Jones of Little Rock, Ark.

Besides the twelve colored farmers sentenced to death, sixty-seven others were sentenced to various prison terms from a few years to life imprisonment.

The association in carrying on the defense of these men has expended $14,000 of funds raised for the purpose. Considerable sums have also been raised and expended by the colored people of Arkansas. The fight has been conducted not only to right a grievous wrong done these colored farmers. It is hoped as well, by taking their cases before the highest tribunal in the land, to open up the entire question of peonage, which is the greatest economic handicap and source of much of the brutal exploitation under which the Negro suffers in the cotton raising communities of the United States.

In the case of the Ku Klux Klan the warning issued by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People three years ago is now being justified by events throughout the country, and especially in Morehouse Parish, La. The association initiated the campaign of publicity with which the Klan is now being fought by the New York World, Hearst's International Magazine and other publications. During the year 1922 we continued the campaign of publicity against the Klan.

TO INVESTIGATE LYNCHING.

The introduction of a joint resolution into the Congress of the United States for the purpose of establishing a commission to investigate lynching may be taken as an indication that the fight against this national menace has just begun. Hitherto THE AGE has been inclined to regard the proposition to appoint a commission on this subject as a legislative effort to defer action in the matter, but the recent failure of anti-lynching legislation in the Senate has shown that the fight is bound to be a long and bitter one that will require the employment of all the resources of public sentiment and legislative tactics.

This joint resolution was introduced by Senator Joseph S. Frelinghuysen of New Jersey, an earnest and determined advocate of anti-lynching legislation, whose motives are beyond question. Although he failed of re-election last Fall in the Democratic tidal wave that swept over New York and New Jersey, he is bound to remain as a force in Republican politics. His purpose in providing for this commission is "of advising and providing information for Congress in matters of legislation which will prevent lynching and insure to all persons the equal protection of the laws."

It would seem that no intelligent legislator, anxious for the welfare of the nation and sworn to uphold the constitution and government by law, could oppose such an inquiry for such a purpose. Nevertheless, it was announced that the Democratic Senators from the South would fight this joint resolution with the same rancor that they showed against the Dyer bill. It remains to be seen whether the Republican majority will stand behind Senator Frelinghuysen in this effort to show cause why anti-lynching legislation is needed.

While this proposition to advise the Congress as to the necessity and propriety of such a measure as the Dyer bill may seem wholly uncalled for by those who have followed the anti-lynching campaign, it may be that it will prove the most effective means of reaching the heart of the evil. A searching inquiry under government auspices into the subject of lynchings in the United States, including the number and the causes thereof, and the inadequacy of the methods now used to prevent them, would present an effective argument with the public and with Congress, for the devising and adoption of preventive legislation. The brutal facts brought to light by such a commission would put the Mer Rouge investigation into the background. Not even the Southern representatives in Congress could defend the recital of murder and torture that would be read into the record.

Let the commission to investigate lynching be authorized at once.

THE LAW OF ENGLISHRY.

Editor The Advertiser:

In the "Dyer anti-lynching bill," which was recently relegated to at least temparay oblivion in the senate provision is made for the recovery of a heavy penalty against any county in which a lynching occurs, the penalty to be recovered by the family of the person lynched, in a United States court. In the dismission of the bill it was alleged that the bill was prepared by a northern negro lawyer, but no mention was made that this bill is a revival of the old "Law of Englishry."

In the year 1066, William the Conquerer, in the battle of Senlac, or Hastings, completely defeated Harold, King of England, who was killed in the battle. William then made himself king of England. One of his first acts was the confiscation of all of the land in England, and its division among his Norman followers. This resulted in great antagonism and animosity among the people against the Normans, and many of the Norman nobles were secretly assassinated. To prevent these assassinations, William enacted the "Law of Englishry."

This law compelled the people of any district in which a Norman was murdered to pay a heavy fine, or penalty, and the presumption was that every person found assassinated was a Norman, until the contrary was proven. History sometimes repeats itself, and the anti-lynching bill is practically a resuscitation of a law enacted over 800 years ago by William the Conqueror.

William was an absolute tyrant, who deprived the people of England of their lives, liberty and property, at his pleasure. It seems that the republicans of the United States want to revive his methods, regardless of legal enactments or constitutional provisions.

1-25-23.

J. T. GORMAN.

Mobile, Ala., Jan. 22, 1923.

Lynchings—1923
Legislation

Dyer Bill (National)

1339

Anti-Lynch Bill Dropped.

Yardman's Weekly

The Republican leaders in the Senate have finally decided to drop the anti-lynching measure for the present. It is a wise decision. It would have aggravated the situation instead of affording a remedy. To turn the attention of the colored people away from the crime and focus it upon the method of punishment will not cure the trouble.

The measure was introduced for political purposes and not for the advancement of justice. A filibuster cannot kill a just measure but it sometimes wrecks a partisan effort by exposing to the country the real character of the bill.

1-4-23

The above from Bryan's Commoner embodies sound argument against the anti-lynching bill, which occupied the attention of Congress for so long a time. It finally was put to sleep on motion of those who really favored it, because justice finally prevailed even in the minds of the negro-loving members in the upper branch of Congress.

Jackson, Miss.

This view of The Commoner strange as it may seem, does not coincide with that recently expressed by a committee of ladies representing the Southern Methodist church in Atlanta, which committee by resolution deeply deplored the defeat of really the only remedy for the safeguard of white woman against the negro rapist. However, as a rule, woman with her tender heart in times of peace and tranquility, is ever ready to condemn anything that may seem barbarous or cruel, whether it be a deserved legal execution or those without such formality. This thought no doubt prompted the good women to go on record as commending the action of the dropping by Congress of the anti-lynching bill.

The Weekly is delighted that the Senate, in its wisdom, saw the light of day in this matter, and that right finally prevailed.

REPLIES TO PRESIDENT HARDING'S SECRETARY CRITICISING REPUBLICAN SURRENDER OF ANTI-LYNCH BILL.

National Baptist

Replying to a letter from George B. Christian, Jr., Secretary to President Harding, in which blame for the failure to enact the Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill is laid on the Democratic filibuster, James Weldon Johnson, Secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, charged, the Republican majority in the Senate with "luke-warmness" in a letter made public today.

The failure of the Dyer Bill is called "the culmination of a series of disappointments to the colored people during the present Administration," in Mr. Johnson's letter, and he says further that "if the Republicans had been in actual collusion with the Democrats to have the latter pull their chestnuts out of the fire, the appearances could not have been worse."

Mr. Johnson's letter in full is as follows:

Nashville, Tenn

December 21, 1922.

Mr. George B. Christian, Jr.,
Secretary to the President,
Washington, D. C.

1-20-23

My dear Mr. Christian:

I wish to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 8th. Will you allow me to say in reply that the feeling of the Colored people over the failure to pass the Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill is one of more than disappointment. It is a feeling of chagrin and resentment.

The Colored people of the country, of course, realize the seriousness of the obstacle placed in the way of the Bill by the lynching tactics used by the Southern Democrats. But Colored citizens also know that the Republicans in the Senate exerted almost no aggressive effort; that they practically sat mute and allowed the Democrats to assume responsibility for the failure of the Bill. If the Republicans had been in actual collusion with the Democrats to have the latter pull their chestnuts out of the fire, the appearance could not have been worse.

Th Colored people of the country expected and had the right to expect more than this of the large Republican majority in the Senate. The Republican leadership really accepted defeat at the opening of the fight. Colored people and many white people as well feel that if the Republicans had been sufficiently concerned and had had the courage to stand firm, public sentiment throughout the country would have rallied to them and would have made the position of the Democratic filibusterers untenable.

This luke-warmness on the part of the Republicans is as much resented by the Colored people as the aggressive tactics of the Southern Democrats. The manner in which the Anti-Lynching Bill was handled by the Republicans in the Senate has evoked from colored newspapers all over the country expressions of the gravest doubt that the Republicans ever had any sincere intention to pass the Bill.

We have many times expressed appreciation that the President did in his first message to Congress recommend the enactment of anti-lynching legislation, and that he has more than once conveyed to this Association evidence of his favorable attitude toward the Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill. Notwithstanding, there has been keen disappointment on the part of the colored people that the President in his several messages to Congress while an actual measure was being considered, neglected to urge at any time the enactment of that measure, or even to mention it favorably

The fate of the Dyer Bill comes as the culmination of a series of disappointments to the Colored people during the present administration—a disappointment which in itself outweighs any resulting from failures to give Colored citizens of the United States representation in the administration of the government. The present state of mind of the colored people will be far-reaching in its effects.

I hope you will appreciate that in writing you as I am doing, I am expressing no mere individual opinion but am making to you a frank statement of what I know to be the prevailing sentiment among the Colored people of the whole country.

Yours very truly,
(Signed) James Weldon Johnson,
Secretary.

LOS ANGELS CAL. TIMES
DECEMBER 29, 1922

NTILYNCHING LAW

A The recent outbreak of murder and mob violence in the Louisiana parish of Mer Rouge, through which white, not colored, men were illegally put to death, may bring home to the people of the South the urgent need for stronger law enforcement to check the lawless spirit at present rampant throughout the United States.

In this case the State authorities are acting promptly. Were they to be remiss in their duty the people of Louisiana might, indeed, be subjected to a reign of hooded terrorism. Of course, such submission is out of the question.

But it should occur to the Democratic Senators who have blocked the passage of the Dyer antilynching bill that the horrors in witnessed at Mer Rouge are the direct outcome of the same cruel spirit that has hanged and burned so many negroes for unproven crimes which—if committed—should have been dealt with by the legally constituted authorities.

Mob murder is mob murder, whether it take the form of burning a negro at the stake in Texas or trampling out the lives of white workers in Illinois. Against all such crimes, which constitute today the gravest menace to the stability of the republic, the Dyer antilynching bill was leveled. The House of Representatives passed it by a large majority. Beyond a doubt the Senate, too, would pass it, could it be brought to a vote. The filibustering tactics of a few Democratic Senators have held up this important measure; and the encouragement thus given to mob violence has already been in evidence in fresh lynchings of negroes in the South and finally in the hooded outrage in Louisiana.

These Democratic Senators contend that the bill is an infringement of State rights. State rights deserve to be fitly recognized. But human rights come first. And if the State is either unable or unwilling to protect all of its citizens, without regard to rank, affiliation, color, race or religion, then it is time for the Federal government to make sure that every citizen gets ample protection against the intolerable tyranny of mobs and organized murder gangs.

NASHVILLE, TENN.
Tennessean
AUG 21 1923

Anti-Lynching Legislation.

William Cabell Bruce, United States Senator-elect from Maryland, proposes to inaugurate a campaign to abolish lynching as soon as he takes his seat in the Senate next December.

Senator Bruce believes that the Dyer bill again will be brought to the attention of the Congress, and he intends to bring forward his proposal as a substitute. He will oppose the Dyer bill, he says.

The Dyer bill died in the last Congress through Southern opposition. The South did not oppose the bill because it defends lynching or even tolerates the practice. It is as opposed to lynchings, as is the North, the East or the West.

Its opposition to legislation of this character was deeper-seated, for such legislation would tear from us the last vestige of state's rights. The Dyer bill is conceded to be unconstitutional by the best legal minds of the Congress, but the majority was willing to press it to passage as a sop to negro organizations which believe they can obtain more through force than by petition.

The Dyer bill never could be enforced. Its enactment would cause untold bitterness and reopen old wounds.

Senator Bruce has given some thought to this problem, and as he represents a state which figures in the lynching statistics, his suggestion is worthy of consideration. He says:

But we should not stop the effort to root out lynching. It is the greatest blot upon the good name of the country.

The true way to stamp out the iniquity and disgrace of lynching is for a large number of leading men, white and colored, in the Southern states, to unite in a written appeal to the Governors of those states to recommend to their legislatures the passage of some uniform law that, in addition to the penalties prescribed by the ordinary law of the land for homicide, would impose severe penalties on all public servants concerned, with administration of justice who refuse or failed to protect, to

the full extent of their ability, a victim of lynching.

The law would also provide a heavy fine against the county in which the lynching occurred for the benefit of the victim's family. This provision would be one of the surest ways to stop the practice.

Senator Bruce will find many Southerners who will join him in this movement, and it would not be surprising if he were successful, although it will take time for the legislatures of the various states to see the wisdom of such action.

The South realizes that lynching is a blot on its escutcheon, and it would wipe it out. Virginia and Tennessee are two states which have shown remarkable improvement of late years in this respect. A stern show of authority has sufficed in these states to check the mob. But we cannot make the penalty for lynching too severe, so long as the power to exact that penalty remains with the state and is not delegated to or usurped by a central government.

Our police power is our own. Let us keep it and destroy the cause of the agitation that would take it from us.

DYER SAYS MOB WINS AGAIN

Anti-Lynching Congressman Expected Columbia, Mo., Acquittal.

ST. LOUIS, July 13. The acquittal yesterday of George W. Barnewell at Columbia, Mo., on a charge of murder in connection with the lynching of James Scott, a negro was no surprise to Congressman Leonidas C. Dyer of St. Louis, author of the anti-Lynching bill that was brought before Congress.

"The verdict," said Mr. Dyer, "furnished more evidence of the failure to punish mob violence, especially in cases of negro lynchings. It is a failure to give the equal protection guaranteed by the Fourteenth Amendment of the United States Constitution.

"The case merely furnished additional evidence of the necessity of passing a congressional bill to punish mob violence. There would be convictions if such cases were tried in the Federal courts and the result of these convictions would be that lynchings in the United States would soon cease."

Mr. Dyer referred to statistics which, he said, showed that 3,824 lynchings had been recorded during the last thirty-five years and that in all these cases there had scarcely been a conviction.

The Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill

NEW HAVEN (CONN.) UNION

NOVEMBER 21, 1923

To condemn the Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill which is to be introduced again in the next Congress, because in the judgment of certain people it may be unconstitutional, is to howl before you are hit. It will be time enough to worry about the constitutionality of this measure when our highest court renders its decision on this mooted point. The first thing to do is to pass the bill.

What Congressman Dyer is trying to do is to put the stamp of disapproval of our greatest and most powerful legislative assembly upon a wrong that is not sectional, but national in its scope, and is becoming more rather than less prevalent. He is simply invoking the moral force of a Congressional edict in statutory form against a rank and growing evil in our body politic. His bill is aimed at no particular section of the country. If it does hit any particular section harder than another, so much the better for the section hit.

One thing is certain—lynch law and mob violence cannot much longer be tolerated in this country. If the several states by legislative enactment and proper use of their police powers will not scotch this venomous snake within their own jurisdictions, it is high time that the national Congress took due cognizance of the situation, because the lynching evil is not a danger and a disgrace alone where it is tolerated, it is a national menace of no mean magnitude. It is the essence of anarchy and the most dangerously contagious disease with which the body politic can be afflicted.

It is a rather near sighted attitude, indeed, to assume that this evil is merely of local concern. It would be quite as logical to assume that the prevalence of yellow fever in New Orleans, the bubonic plague in San Francisco, small pox in Kansas City, and an influenza epidemic in Boston, is of no concern to New Haven.

If mob violence, lynchings and other forms of anarchy were and could be confined to the southern states alone there might be some good reason for telling Mr. Dyer to mind his own business. We bow to nobody in our adherence the great principle of local autonomy and home rule in governmental affairs. Mob violence and the lynching habit, however, grows by suggestion. Anarchy in Texas may breed Anarchy in Oklahoma and Illinois. If there is one spot in this land where the constitutional rights of citizens can be disregarded by a mob, there is no place in the country where this vicious example cannot be copied with impunity. The lynching evil, because of its very character, is a national problem and as such Congress should and must tackle it without gloves. The Dyer Bill simply gives Congress an opportunity to play its part and voice a solemn protest against an acknowledged and menacing wrong.

Lynchings—1923
Legislation

1340

Federal Action Again Looms

Returning from his visit to the White House, Representative Dyer of Missouri announces that he will shortly lay before the president a brief of proposed legislation to enable the Federal government to curb the crime of lynching. Houston Post

Presumably, if the president assents, Mr. Dyer will reintroduce in substantially the same form his anti-lynching bill which the democrats talked to death in the last-session. Houston Texas

The political motive behind the Missouri representative's proposal is readily apparent, and it will make a strong appeal to the republican party strategists. The rapid increase in the negro population in the North makes it incumbent on the party to make definite advances to the negro voters in the doubtful States. Negro sentiment is solidified against the lynching evil for the reason that so many negroes have been the victims of mob violence. It need not be surprising if the party in power makes another desperate effort to put over an anti-lynching bill on the eve of the national election. 9-20-23

But that is only one side of the movement for Federal intervention in lynching cases. What sentiment there is for Federal action has resulted chiefly from the failure of the States to act for themselves in suppressing mob violence. Opposition to the bill in the last congress was based almost entirely on the claim that such a law would invade the rights of the States. The outcome of the contest was, the States were given another chance.

It can not be said that the States have improved greatly their opportunity. Though the lynching of negroes has declined somewhat during the past year, mob violence on the whole has increased. States North and South, East and West, have been disgraced by rioting and mob attacks, until the question of the supremacy of the constituted authorities in their prerogative to administer justice is pressing for an answer in many parts of the country.

When congress reassembles and the anti-lynching bill is again introduced, even the States' rights contenders will be faced with the undeniable fact that the States have neglected lamentably, with few exceptions, to take effective action against the growing evil of mob violence. Against a condition they will be able to offer only a theory

The president has indicated his respect for the doctrine of States rights, it is true, but as The Post has pointed out, he has coupled with it his insistence that the States accept corresponding responsibilities Having failed in their responsibility to suppress the mobs, there is little reason to expect the president to discourage anti-lynching legislation when party welfare will be served by it, and when there is some ground for believing that national welfare also will be served by it.

Pres. Coolidge May Demand New Anti-Lynch Bill

The Pittsburgh Courier 8-25-23

Courier's Contention That Measure Would Be Passed When Other Races Felt "Outlaw" Rule Vindicated.

Pittsburgh, Pa.

The recent wave of lawlessness, exhibited in one form or another, is said to have attracted the attention of President Coolidge. We hope it has not only attracted his attention, but his official interest. Crime is rampant today as never before during the history of our country.

Reports indicate that the Dyer Bill, intended to stop the mob, will be re-introduced in the next Congress. There is every justification for its introduction, and the present-day conditions warrant its passage without filibuster.

But we are not too sanguine. We are aware that every political expediency known to party leaders will be employed to marshall every element to the Coolidge banner in 1924. There is no need of any special promises to Negroes to enlist their support for President Coolidge. Negroes are for Coolidge, section by section, and state by state. The country needs protection from the mob more than President Coolidge needs Negro support. Negroes the country over are looking to President Coolidge—not for superhuman achievements, but for the performance of some of the things which our former President delighted to speak, but which he conveniently avoided.

The Pittsburgh Courier has contended that one kind of prejudice leads but to another and larger kind; one kind of lawlessness leads to another and larger; one mob but creates another, and the original objective of the mob remains stable but for the moment, when the whole attention may be changed within a moment and any man or any set of men, any race, or any community, may become the victim of mob violence. Lawlessness becomes habitual without recurrences. Any community is subject to mob invasion. Flogging, tar and feathers, drowning, and murder are but different expressions of lawlessness. And this is nothing new. It has been the rule of crime from the oldest times. But national attention has never been directed to American mobs because only Negroes, or for the most part, at least, were the victims. But now that the wave has reached the white American, public attention is attracted, and we read that President Coolidge is much concerned. We hope he is.

Providence held in wait just such a man as Coolidge for just such an hour in our country's history as this. He has subscribed to all that engaged the attention of Mr. Harding, and having subscribed to it, he has the courage to attempt the remedies which to him seem most expedient and effective. It is hoped that President Coolidge will permit his official mind and soul to become engaged with this growing evil of the country. We may not need our industries, our institutions, and our altars, if crime is not brought to its knees, and law reinstated.

PRES. COOLIDGE MAY BACK FEDERAL ACTION AGAINST THE MOB

Wichita Kansas

ADMINISTRATION MAY SUPPORT DYER ANTI-LYNCHING BILL IN NEXT CONGRESS

(Press Service of N. A. A. C. P.)

Recent outbreaks of mobism thro' out the United States have caused President Calvin Coolidge and other governmental officials seriously to consider the advisability of backing the Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill in the next Congress and of taking federal action against the mob, according to a correspondent in a Washington newspaper. Representative Dyer has assured the National Association for Advancement of Colored People that he will introduce his bill on the opening day of the new session of the Congress and information reaching the N. A. A. C. P., confirms the impression that it will be one of the main issues before the national legislature. 8-31-23

Washington reports state that President Coolidge is considering not only the Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill, but also an extension of its provisions whereby it would apply to all organizations of masked men who take the law "into their own hands."

Representative Dyer is quoted as follows:

"I have talked to President Coolidge about my bill and I am preparing a memorandum for his consideration. Because of the plank in the Republican platform which pledged this legislation, I expect the President will support its enactment.

"I will reintroduce my bill in practically the same form as it passed the House last year. It will apply to all mobs, consisting of three or more men, but in its present form would provide punishment only when the victim is killed. It applies to the Ku Klux Klan as well as any other body of men."

SENATOR BRUCE AGAINST DYER BILL

The Freeman

BALTIMORE, Md., Aug. 23.—(Preston News Service)—"I am a Democrat from the South, and traditionally in favor of retaining a large police power in the individual states as possible," declared Senator Bruce in expressing his opposition to the Dyer Anti-Lynching bill. "I am strongly opposed the barbarous practice of lynching and I am in favor of eradicating lynching. My method will be for the states to deal with the problem individually, by effective action. What I think should be done is for a large number of leading men, white and colored, in the southern states, unite in a written appeal to the governors of those states to recommend to their legislatures the passage of some uniform law that, in addition to the penalties prescribed by the ordinary law of the land for homicide, would impose severe penalties on all public servants concerned with admistration of justice who refused or failed to protect, to the full extent of their ability a victim of lynching."

8-25-23

Indianapolis Ind.

He also said, "I favor the law already enacted in some sections—a fine against the county in which a lynching is permitted to occur, the fine to go to the family of the victim. Such legislation in a few of the states which have been most disgraced by lynching, would remove all feeling of necessity for anything like the Dyer bill, and would also be an advertisement of great material value to the states adopting it." Senator Bruce is from Maryland.

COOLIDGE MAY BACK FEDERAL ANTI-MOB LAW

Special to The Informer.

Washington, D. C.—Recent outbreaks of mobbism throughout the United States have caused President Calvin Coolidge and other government officials seriously to consider the advisability of backing the Dyer anti-lynching bill in the next congress and of taking federal action against the mob, according to a correspondent in a Washington newspaper. Representative Dyer has assured the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People that he will introduce his bill on the opening day of the new session of the congress and information reaching the N. A. A. C. P. confirms the impression that it will be one of the main issues before the national legislature.

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ANTI-MOB BILL TO BE INTRODUCED BY LAWMAKERS AGAIN

DISTURBANCES IN FOUR STATES SAID TO HAVE STIRRED COOLIDGE'S IRF.

Washington, Aug. 20.—Frequently recurring outbreaks of mob violence throughout the nation Monday caused officials of the Coolidge administration to seriously consider enactment of legislation making these offenses a crime against the federal government.

With governors of four states alarmed by mob uprisings and martial law proclaimed in one locality, President Coolidge was reported deeply concerned by the apparent increased disregard for law and order. The president and other government officials were said to be considering the advisability of enacting an anti-mob bill in the next Congress.

The proposed legislation would apply not only to lynch mobs but to all organizations of masked men who take the law "into their own hands."

The Dyer bill, passed by the last House, but "talked to death" in the Senate by a Democratic filibuster will be reintroduced in the next Congress, it was learned Monday. The Coolidge administration is expected to support this measure inasmuch as the executive was elected on a platform which pledged its enactment.

Federal authorities, however, hope to extend the Dyer bill to include all masked organizations attempting mob violence of any nature. The Dyer bill, in its original form, applies only —more to mobs which lynched their victims. It provided a penalty of $10,000 fines upon counties in which lynchings occur and would have punished state and county officers held responsible for the outrages.

All Violence Included.

A movement now underway would amend the bill to make any act of mob violence a federal crime. Under this inventory would come the whippings, deportations and "tar and feather" outrages, frequently attributed to a secret order. Penalties on a lesser scale than those applying to lynchings, would be provided.

Although the Dyer bill was bitterly fought in the last Congress, Republican leaders are more hopeful of its enactment after next winter. The solid "Democratic South" was lined up against the bill on a racial principle and the bill's opponents were victorious in their filibuster when Republican leaders stopped the fight in order to enact other pressing legislation.

In the coming session, however, new issues will be involved, and the bill may be enacted without a great fight in an amended form. It has already been endorsed by the American Bar Association, and similar statutes have been enacted in the states of South Carolina, Pennsylvania, West Virginia, Ohio and others.

The Dyer bill will be reintroduced in the House by its author, Representative Dyer, Republican, of Missouri, and in the Senate by Senator Shortridge, Republican, of California.

"I will reintroduce my bill in practically the same form as it passed the House last year," said Dyer Monday. "It will apply to all mobs consisting of three or more men, but in its present form would provide punishment only when the victim is killed. It applies to the Ku Klux Klan as well as any other body of men.

"Under existing conditions, state authorities are helpless to stamp out mob violence. State laws makes it necessary to obtain indictments in the county where the crime occurred and experience has taught us local grand juries will not return indictments. Enactment of my bill would transfer the cases into the federal courts, where justice would be more easily obtained.

"One conviction in a federal court and mob violence would be ended.

"I have talked to President Coolidge about my bill and I am preparing a memorandum for his consideration. Because of the plank in the Republican platform which pledge this legislation, I expect the president will support its enactment."

Reports from Department of Justice agents from the scenes of recent mob outrages meanwhile are reaching government authorities. Federal agents now are investigating these crimes in Texas, Ohio, Georgia, Oklahoma and West Virginia.

ANTI-LYNCH BILL FIRST BEFORE NEW CONGRESS

Rep. Dyer (Rep. Mo.) Says He Will Re-Introduce It On First Day

15 LYNCHED IN 1923

Congressman Calls Opposition of "States Righters" Silly

Kansas City, Kans., Sept. 6.—Speaking before the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, which held a race relations conference here, last week Representative Leonidas C. Dyer of the 8th Missouri District, said he would reintroduce his Federal anti-lynching bill on the first day of the new session of Congress.

The Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill was passed by a vote of 230 to 119 in the last House of Representatives but was held up in the Senate by a filibuster conducted by Southern Democrats. He said:

"Without relaxation and with confidence we will continue the fight for legislation by the 68th Congress that will make lynching a national crime in the United States.

"Those who have in the past countenanced this crime of lynching have made, as an excuse, that lynchings were the results of certain crimes committed by Negroes. We have been able, very generally, to show that this is not a fact. The lynchings that have occurred in the United States during the first six months of this year compare favorably, as to the causes, with lynchings that have occurred during the past thirty-five years. I include a statement touching those of this year. They are as follows:

JANUARY

2—Rosewood, Florida. —Samuel Carter colored; charge, assisting a Negro to escape. Shot to death.

Lawrence County, Miss.—Benjamin Webster, colored; charge, killing a road contractor. Taken from a deputy sheriff who was bringing the prisoner from Jackson where he had been held for safekeeping. Hanged.

4—Shreveport, Caddo Parish, La.— Leslie Legget, Spaniard; charge, that he was a Negro trying to associate with white women. His employer, a white grocer, with whom he roomed, said he was a Spaniard. He was shot to death.

Rosewood, Florida—Lesty Gordon, a colored woman. No charge. In the general burning of dwellings of Negroes in connection with the attack on the colored settlement by whites, she was shot to death as she was leaving her burning dwelling.

5—Florida—Mingo Williams, colored. No charge reported. Killed in a general hunt for Jesse Hunter, charged with rape. Shot to death.

6—Rosewood, Florida—James Carrier, colored; charge, resisting posse searching for Hunter. Shot to death.

16—Harrison, Boone County, Ark.,—E. C. Gregor, white, charge being a railroad striker and resisting a committee investigating the burning of railroad bridges. Hanged.

17—Newberry, Alachua Co. Fla.—Abraham Wilson, colored; charge, cattle stealing. Had been convicted and sentenced to a fine of $300 or a jail sentence of six months. Taken from jail during the absence of the deputy sheriff on guard and hanged.

FEBRUARY

Bishop, Nueces Co. Texas.—J. G. Smith, colored physician charge, "Trying to act like a white man and not knowing his place." Had been arrested and placed in jail for reckless driving. Was taken from jail and killed and body partly burned.

3—Hancock Co. Ga.,—George Butts, colored; charge, wounding an officer of the law. Shot to death.

3—Hancock Co., Ga.—Unnamed man, colored; charge, wounding an officer of the Shot to death.

APRIL

29—Columbia, Boone Co., Mo.—James Scott, colored; charge, attempted rape. Mob burned iron door of jail with acetylene torch, took prisoner and hanged him from a bridge.

JUNE

7—Palm Beach, Palm Beach, Co., Fla.,—Henry Simmons, colored; charge, suspected of having shot and killed policeman. Appears that no attempt was made to arrest.

11—Ashland Benton Co., Miss.—Unnamed man, colored; charge, that in February 1923, he had stabbed a white man named Byrd to death who had charged the colored man with having stolen some property from Byrd. The men worked for the same construction gang. The white man is reported to have attemped to search the Negro and was stabbed so severely that he later died. The colored man was later arrested and placed in jail. Mob took prisoner out of town, hanged him and riddled his body with bullets.

15.—Homestead, Dade Co., Fla.—Simmons colored; charge shooting and killing marshal of own in a liquor raid. Did not come after him. Hanged and riddled body with bullets.

"Practically the only opposition we hear now against a Federal Anti-Lynching Law is the cry that the Congress is invading States' rights.' How silly this claim is, is made known to every person when it is shown that in the last 35 years, there have been more than 3,000 known lynchings in the United States and that in scarcely an instance have there been any convictions of members of mobs and those responsible for this crime.

"If we should recognize States' rights' in this matter, we will be simply conceding the fact that mobs shall be permitted to lynch people without thought or possibility of punishment by the States."

Lynchings — 1923
Legislation Relating to.

Stevens' Bill.

1337

Stevens' Bills Picturing Used By Mrs. Abbott In Suit

11-3-23

Measure Introduced by Race Man in Pennsylvania Legislature to Suppress Mob Law, Used by Wife of Klansman.

The highlights of the aftermath of the Carnegie riot of several weeks ago, incited by the Ku Klux Klan parade, in which one Klansman was killed, has resulted in the filing of a $10,000 suit by Mrs. Thomas R. Abbott, white, widow of the dead Klansman and mother of two children—but the "Irony of Fate" has thrust its seared head into the scene, for the bill under which Mrs. Abbott is suing Allegheny County is the Pennsylvania Anti-Lynching Bill introduced in the State Legislature by Representative Andrew Stevens, a race man. The bill, introduced for the purpose of preventing mob-rule in this state, has proven a boomerang, and the race looks on helpless as the hapless widow, the wife of a Klansman, that organization whose "reign of terror" and insidious propaganda of race hatred has become a national issue, uses the measure passed at the instigation of a race man, to obtain redress from the county.

Act No. 188 Cited

The bloody Klan riot in Carnegie on Saturday night, August 25, the direct result of the determination of citizens of that borough that the "Knights of the Invisible Empire" would not parade there, has formed a black page in American history.

Act No. 188, passed by the 1923 session of the Pennsylvania State Legislature, is given as the basis of the civil suit filed by Mrs. Abbott against Allegheny County. The text of Section 7 of the act follows: "That the putting to death, within any county, of any person, within the jurisdiction of the county by mob, or riotous assemblage of three or more persons, openly acted in concert, in violation of law, and in default of protection of such person by such county of the officers thereof, shall be deemed a denial to such person by such county of the equal protection of the laws, and a violation of the peace of the commonwealth and an offense against the same.

"Section 8. That any person participating in such mob or riotous assemblage by which such person is put to death, as described in the section immediately preceding, shall be guilty of murder.

"Section 9. (in part). That every county in which such unlawful putting to death occurs shall be subject to a forfeiture of ten thousand dollars, which may be recovered by action therefor in the name of the commonwealth, against such county for the use of the dependent family, if any, of the person so put to death."

TRICKED by FATE



Rep. Andrew Stevens
Whose anti-lynching bill passed in the 1923 session of the state legislature is being used by Mrs. Thomas R. Abbott, white, wife of a dead Klansman, as the means by which she is suing Allegheny County for $10,000.

Lynchings—1923.
N.A.A.C.P. Press Reports on.

Jan.—Dec.

1345

1923 Race In Lynching League Not So Exciting

Special to The Informer.

New York City.—Sharp decline in the number of lynchings in the United States during the year 1923, the figure being 26 as against 61 in 1922, was laid to the agitation for a federal anti-lynching law, and to the northward migration of Negroes, in a statement today by James Weldon Johnson, secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, 69 Fifth Avenue, New York.

Houston
Informer
12-29-23

Mississippi and Florida lead the list of lynching states with five mob murders each. Georgia is second with four. Oklahoma is third with three. Arkansas, Alabama and Texas have two each. Other states in which one lynching occurred are: Louisiana, Missouri and Virginia.

Only seven out of the 26 persons were charged with assault upon women, and in the case of one of the seven, the janitor of the University of Missouri, grave doubt was subsequently cast upon the guilt of the mob's victim. Other offenses for which lynchings occurred include: mistaken identity, aiding in escape, associating with white women, being in an automoble accident, remaining in a town where Negroes were not wanted, and frightening white children by walking harmlessly along a country road. Two of the victims of lynching mobs were white men. One colored woman was lynched in Pickens, Mississippi.

"Two main causes brought about the decline in lynching in 1923," said Mr. Johnsón. "First was the agitation on the floor of congress, and throughout the country, for a federal anti-lynching bill, the measure introduced by Mr. Dyer passing the last house of representatives by a vote of 230 to 119.. The second main cause was the northward migration of Negroes by the hundreds of thousands.. This has borne in on the South that lynching will have to be stopped if the best labor the South can get for its plantations and industries is to be retained. Prospects for the enactment of the Dyer anti-lynching bill in the present congress are excellent, in the light of President Coolidge's anti-lynching pronouncement in his message to congress.. It is to be hoped that in a very few years the crime of lynching will have been completely wiped out in America."

MOB MURDERS FALL OFF OVER FIFTY PER CENT

Migration and Anti-Lynch Agitation Given as Causes.

FLORIDA LEADS IN LYNCHINGS

Out of 26 Persons Lynched, Only 7 Charged with Rape.

The Messenger
12-29-23

NEW YORK, December 21.—Sharp decline in the number of lynchings in the United States during the year 1923, the figure being twenty-six against 61 in 1922, was laid to the agitation for a federal anti-lynching law and to the northward migration of Negroes, in a statement today by James Weldon Johnson, Secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, 69 Fifth avenue, New York.

Florida Leads.

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Causes Given.

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Sumter, S.C.
Daily Item
DEC 22 1923

LYNCHING RECORD FOR THIS YEAR

There Has Been Marked Decrease in Number of Mob Executions

New York, Dec. 21—Lynchings in the United States during 1923 numbered 26 against 61, in 1922, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People announced today. The decrease was laid to agitation for a federal anti-lynching law and the northward trend of negroes.

Mississippi and Florida were reported to lead with five lynchings each. Georgia was listed with four Oklahoma three and Arkansas, Alabama and Texas two each. Louisiana, Missouri and Virginia each had one.

26 LYNCHINGS IN 1923

Decline in Mob Murders Laid to Agitation for Federal Law and Migration.

New York, Dec. 27.—Sharp decline in the number of lynchings in the United States during the year of 1923, the figure being 26 as against 61 in 1922, was laid to the agitation for a federal anti-lynching law and to the northward migration of Negroes, in a statement by Jas. W. Johnson, secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

Pittsburgh Courier
12-29-23

Mississippi and Florida lead the the list of lynchings States with five murders each. Georgia is second with four; Oklahoma is third with three; Arkansas, Alabama and Texas have two each. Other states in which one lynching occurred are: Louisiana, Missouri and Virginia.

Only 7 out of 26 persons were charged with assault upon women, and in the case of one of the seven, the janitor of the University of Missouri, grave doubt was subsequently cast upon the guilt of the mob's victim. Other offenses for which lynchings occurred include: Mistaken identity, aiding in escape, associating with white women, being in an automoble accident, remaining in a town where Negroes were not wanted and frightening white children by walking harmlessly along a country road. Two of the victims of lynching mobs were white men. One colored woman was was lynched in Pickens, Miss.

"Two main causes brought about the decline in lynching in 1923," said Mr. Johnson. 'Firt, was the agitation on the floor of Congress and throughout the country for a federal anti-lynching bill, the measure introduced by Mr. Dyer passing the House of Representatives by a vote of 230 to 119. The second main cause was the northward migration of Negroes by the hundreds of thousands. This has borne in on the South that lynching will have to be stopped if the best labor the South can get for its plantations and industries is to be retained. Prospects for the enactment of the Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill in the present Congress are excellent, in the light of President Coolidge's anti-lynching pronouncement in his message to Congress. It is to be hoped that in a very few years the crime of lynching will have been completely wiped out in Aamerica."

LYNCHINGS DECREASE IN THE UNITED STATES

Only 26 In 1923 As Against 61 In 1922. Cause For Decrease Laid To Agitation For Federal Anti-Lynch Law And Migration

One Woman In The Number. Many Victims Of Mob Law Were Only Charged With Frivolous Offenses.

Special to the Argus.

NEW YORK, December 27.—Sharp decline in the number of lynchings in the United States during the year 1923, the figure being 26 as against 61 in 1922, was laid to the agitation for a federal anti-lynching law, and to the northward migration of Negroes, in a statement today by James Weldon Johnson, Secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

Mississippi and Florida leads the list of lynching states with 5 mob murders each. Georgia is second with 4. Oklahoma is third with 3. Arkansas, Alabama and Texas have 2 each. Other states in which one lynching occurred are: Louisiana, Missouri and Virginia.

Only Seven Assault Charges

Only 7 out of the 26 persons were charged with assault upon women, and in the case of one of the seven, the janitor of the University of Missouri, grave doubt was subsequently cast upon the guilt of the mob's victim. Other offenses for which lynchings occurred include: mistaken identity, aiding in escape, associating with white women, being in an automobile accident, remaining in a town where Negroes were not wanted, and frightening white children by walking harmlessly along a country road. Two of the victims of lynching mobs were white men. One Colored woman was lynched in Pickens, Miss.

Effect of Migration

"Two main causes brought about the decline in lynching in 1923," said Mr. Johnson. "First was the agitation on the floor of Congress, and throughout the country, for a federal anti-lynching bill, the measure introduced by Mr. Dyer passing the last House of Representatives by a vote of 230 to 119. The second main cause was the northern migration of Negroes by the hundreds of thousands. This has borne in on the South that lynching will have to be stopped if the best labor the South can get for its plantations and industries is to be retained. Prospects for the enactment of the Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill in the present Congress are excellent, in the light of President Coolidge's anti-lynching pronouncement in his message to Congress. It is hoped that in a very few years, the crime of lynching will have been completely wiped out in America."

DEC 28 1923

LYNCHINGS IN 1923.

(Indianapolis News.)

Barring further outbreaks, the year 1923 will end with a record of 26 persons lynched in the United States. That is by far the smallest number of cases in which men have visited punishment by death outside the law for crimes, real or alleged, since 1889. The peak was in 1892, when 208 persons met death at the hands of mobs. In many years the number was more than a hundred and, with the exception of this year, it was not under 50 until 1917, when there was a decline to 38. The next year there were 64; in 1919, 83; in 1920, 61; in 1921, 64, and in 1922, 61.

No record on lynchings can be said to be good as long as there is occasion to enumerate any examples of people taking it on themselves to inflict punishment without due process of law. Nevertheless, the record of 1923 shows a commendable improvement. It was two years ago that a special section of a Georgia state committee on inter-racial cooperation, which was composed of women, appealed to the public against the brutality that so often has been defended on the ground that it was for the protection of women. The members of the committee section were agreed that there was no crime more dangerous than that which strikes at the root of, and undermines, constituted authority; substitutes mob violence and masked irresponsibility for established justice, and deprives society against a sense of protection against barbarism."

Continued migration of negroes northward and agitation for a federal anti-lynching law are cited by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored Pople as causes for this year's decrease. Probably they have had a salutary effect. But no doubt the truth the southern women themselves preached is sinking in. Respect for law that is compelled is never as effective as respect that grows out of an awakened consciousness of wrong. Lynching is lawlessness, and lawlessness breeds more lawlessness. Leaders in the south long have been preaching that. Due weight should be accorded the effect of their words.

NEW ORLEANS, LA., Picayune

DEC 22 1923

Thirty-five Less Lynchings in 1923 Than Year Before

New York, Dec. 21.—Lynchings in the United States during 1923 numbered twenty-six against sixty-one in 1922, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People announced today.

The decrease was laid to agitation for a federal anti-lynching law and the Northward migration of negroes.

Mississippi and Florida were reported to lead with five lynchings each. Georgia was listed with four Oklahoma three, and Arkansas, Alabama and Texas two each. Louisiana, Missouri and Virginia each had one.

Underwood, S. C.
Daily Mail
DEC 22 1923

LYNCHINGS DECREASE IN 1923, SAYS REPORT

New York, Dec. 21. —Lynchings in the United States during 1923 numbered 26 against 61 in 1922, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People announced today. The decrease was laid to agitation for a federal anti-lynching law and the northward migration of Negroes.

Mississippi and Florida were reported to lead with five lynchings each. Georgia was listed 4; Oklahoma 3 and Arkansas, Alabama and Texas, 2 each; Louisiana, Missouri and Virginia one each.

The above statistics show quite an appreciable decrease in lynching for the current year, which all spells a growing respect for law and order in the south. It matters not what contributed most largely to the decrease in lynching, it is a happy omen for us all.

LYNCHINGS REDUCED OVER HALF IN 1923

Mobs Slew Only 26 Compared With 61 Year Before

Commercial Appeal

NEW YORK, Dec. 21.—Lynchings in the United States during 1923 numbered 26 against 61 in 1922, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People announced today. The decrease was laid to agitation for a federal anti-lynching law and the northward migration of negroes.

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BROOKLYN STANDARD UNION
DECEMBER 23, 1923

PUBLIC PROTEST BRINGS LYNCHING MOB DECLINE

Sharp decline in the number of lynchings in the United States during the year 1923, the figure being 26 as against 61 in 1922, was laid to the agitation for a Federal anti-lynching law, and to the northward migration of Negroes, in a statement by James Weldon Johnson, secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, 69 Fifth avenue, Manhattan.

LYNCHINGS DECREASE

Total of 26 in 1923 as Compared With 61 in 1922.

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Atlanta Georgian
12-22-23

DEC 22 1923

1923 LYNCHINGS SHOW DECREASE

New York, Dec. 22.—(By Associated Press.)—Lynchings in the United States during 1923 numbered twenty-six, against sixty-one in 1922, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People announced yesterday.

The decrease was laid to agitation for a Federal anti-lynching law and the northward migration of Negroes.

Mississippi and Florida were reported to lead with five lynchings each. Georgia was listed with four, Oklahoma three, and Arkansas, Alabama and Texas two each. Louisiana, Missouri and Virginia each had one.

Charleston, S. C., News & Courier

DEC 22 1923

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Lynchings—1923.
N.A.A.C.P. Press Reports on,

Jan.—June.

1346

BUFFALO N Y TIMES
JUNE 28, 1923

DECREASE IN LYNCHINGS.

FIGURES just made public by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, show that lynchings in the United States during the first six months of this year dropped to eleven as compared with thirty-three for the same period in 1922.

To put it another way, these mob murders were exactly three times as many last year as they are this one.

It is a highly significant decrease. It is especially marked when contrasted with the records of years in which the number of lynchings was about the same as before, and years when these monstrous crimes exceeded even their own average.

While congratulating the country on the slump in lynchings, it is well to remember that any one of the eleven which defaced the annals of the first six months of 1923, is an ineradicable blot on the fair fame of the nation.

So long as any year beholds a single lynching, just so long the lynching problem will remain unsolved.

The decrease is attributed to two causes. One, the movement for a Federal Anti-Lynch law. The other the northern migration of negroes and consequent desire to retain colored labor in the South.

If eagerness to exploit the negro for the white man's profit is really a motive for the let-up in lynchings, it merely proves that a sordid purpose may sometimes react to a good result.

There is nothing of high civic principle in desire to keep the colored man in the South, simply because he is wanted to work there.

It is not industrial convenience, but universal obligations of humanity, law and justice, that should furnish the guarantees against terrorism, and the voucher of racial and personal safety.

BUFFALO N Y EXPRESS
JUNE 28, 1923

Sharp decrease in the number of lynchings in the United States for the first six months of 1923 as compared with 1922 is reported by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, whose figures show eleven lynchings for the first half year, as against 33 for the same period last year. Only one of the eleven victims, ten of them negroes, was accused of an attack upon a white woman, the other charges including: cattle stealing, accusing white men of stealing from pay envelope, being a railroad striker, aiding in escape of a fugitive. One of the victims was burned to death after his hands and feet had been cut off. The decrease in lynching is attributed by James Weldon Johnson, secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, to agitation in congress for a federal anti-lynching law, to the northward migration of negroes and the consequent desire to retain negro labor in the South by securing protection of life to black people.

TELLS OF 61 LYNCHINGS.

Association for Negro Advancement Reviews Crimes of a Year.

There were sixty-one lynchings in the United States in 1922. Of these, according to records made public by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, five were white Americans, one was a Mexican and the rest were negroes. The report says that in addition to these victims of mob violence [illegible] Mexican protest charges that between [illegible] and sixty Mexican citizens were murdered in the United States.

"The burning to death of three negroes at Kirvin, Texas, on May 6," the report continues, "was so horrible an affair that the association sent an investigator to the scene. The men were burned at the same stake by a mob of 500 men for their alleged implication in an assault and murder of a 17-year-old white girl. Our investigator, Mr. Dan Kelly, a native white Texan, found that the girl had probably been murdered in the course of a long standing feud between her family and another white family.

"Jake Brooks, a negro packing house employe was kidnapped on January 14 by a band of white men of Oklahoma City, and hanged. Brooks was a strike-breaker. An investigation of the strike situation was instituted by the State and county authorities and by Governor Robertson. Members of the lynching party were prosecuted and seven were given life sentences.

"On Feb. 14, Will Jones, suspected of having shot two white farmers, was lynched in Georgia. Several members of the mob were identified and brought to trial. Eight were indicted and three were convicted and sentenced to serve prison terms of from one to four years each.

"The lynching of James Harvey and Joe Jordan in Liberty County, Georgia, was investigated and indictments were returned against five citizens of Wayne County, charging them with murder. The men lynched were being carried from Jesup, Wayne County, to Savannah for safe-keeping. The Governor had granted thirty days' stay when they were taken from the officers and hanged.

"Upon the insistence of citizens of Oconee County, Georgia, the lynching of Aaron Birdsong, Roy Grove and Wes Hale at Snow Hill in December, 1921, was investigated. Several indictments were returned, but there were no convictions."

The report is concluded with the record of each of the sixty-one lynchings. There are statistics presented of eighteen attempted lynchings prevented and a list of twenty-six victims who were taken from peace officers and jails.

ST PAUL MINN PRESS
JULY 7,

Lynching on the Decrease.

In announcing that for the first half of this year the number of lynchings was 11 as against 33 for the same period of last year the National Association for Colored People attributes the decrease in large measure to the agitation for a Federal anti-lynching law. We can be gratified with the improved showing without agreeing at all with the cause stated. Another cause given is the heavy migration of colored people to the North and the desire of the South to stay the tide. This is equivalent to saying the South is easing up on lynching Negroes because—and of course only because—it does not wish to see its labor market depopulated. We do not believe either of the given reasons is sound.

All of this year's lynchings thus far have been in southern states, but the number has decreased in encouraging fashion. Our own idea of the explanation, if something as subtle as this can be subjected to explanation, is that the South is achieving success in building up a solid edifice of public opinion against lynch law and in support of the orderly and certain processes of the courts of justice. In connection with this it is possible that the lawlessness which in its turn incites lawlessness is diminishing; in other words, a part of the explanation of fewer instances of lynching may be found in the fewer crimes to stir up unbridled mass vengeance.

It cannot be said with certainty yet that the decrease of lynchings means a sure return to the reign of law, but at least it is a hopeful sign. It is still more hopeful if we have correctly diagnosed the reasons and it is true that public opinion is responsible for the suppression of mob justice. It is at least more pleasing to believe that the South is actuated by motives more exalted than [illegible] which center in the pocket nerve.

BALTIMORE MD AMERICAN
JUNE 27, 1923

Decrease In Lynchings

THERE has been gratifying decrease in lynchings in this country during the past six months. Eleven are reported, as compared with thirty-three for the same months last year. The reasons assigned for the decrease are not very creditable, none of them having anything to do with law enforcement. They are agitation for a Federal anti-lynching law, migration of negroes from the South and desire to hold on to them as laborers.

One would like to think that growing dislike of lawlessness has had something to do with the reform. It is quite certain that such determination as was recently noticed in Savannah on the part of law officers who stood off a mob with guns, killing one member of it in preference to surrendering their prisoner, has far-reaching effect.

If mobs get it into their heads that when necessary to put down lynch law officials will shoot, there will be fewer of them.

DECREASE IN LYNCHINGS

(From the Sun and Globe)

The decrease in lynchings in the United States in the first six months of 1923 over the same period of 1922, as reported by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, can be attributed in part to the recent strong agitation for a Federal anti-lynching law. The Dyer bill was talked to death by Southern advocates of States rights, but the mere presentation of the bill and the earnestness of its sponsors succeeded in convincing them that the Southern States must solve this problem.

If the South, as its spokesmen insisted and as the recent prompt action of the authorities in Savannah would seem to prove, can prevent lynchings without assistance from the Federal Government, so much the better. This list of lynchings in 1923 indicates that the South is for almost the first time making a serious effort to root out this evil.

It may also be attributed in part to the alarm felt in the South at the continued migration of Negro laborers into the North. Deserted cotton fields present a telling argument in favor of better treatment for the Negro race as a white race.

ROCHESTER N Y POST EXPRESS
JUNE 27, 1923

A Drop in Lynchings.

According to figures given out by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, lynchings in the United States dropped from thirty-three for the first six months of 1922, to eleven for the corresponding period of the current year. Florida lead the way this year in lynchings, with three; Georgia had two and Arkansas, Alabama, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri and Texas one each.

If the explanation advanced by the association for this drop is correct, then lynching is a much more sordid and base thing than has been suspected. In the North it is regarded generally as plain brutal murder by a mob inflamed with a cowardly lust for blood. But the association attributes the decrease in the crime to the agitation for a Federal anti-lynching law, to the migration of negroes to the North and the desire to keep them as laborers in the South. Then, lynchings fell off because of a calculating fear and commercial greed. The explanation means that the large numbers in the South who take part in lynchings have not even the modicum of nerve or bravery with which they have been credited. They are so cowardly and greedy that they can restrain their blood lust whenever danger is even in the distance or whenever it promises to hurt their pockets.

Let us hope that the association is wrong in its selection of the reasons for this most gratifying decrease in this abominable crime. Lynching, as it has been understood in the North, has disgraced the South. But that the crime should be decreased for such reasons as this does not lessen, but accentuates and deepens, the disgrace.

Athens Ga Herald

JUL 2 - 1923

LYNCHING SHOWS DECREASE

For the first six months of this year, the records show quite a decrease in the number of lynchings in the Southern states. For the same period last year there were 33 as against eleven for this year. This record should be accepted as an indication of the growing sentiment in the enforcement of the law and allowing the duly constituted courts to function without interruption. That the people of this nation are becoming more and more impressed with the belief that the only way in which to suppress crime is through the courts and speedy trials is becoming more apparent every day and we believe that it will not be many years before a lynching will be looked upon as a very unusual occurrence, not only in the southern states, but throughout the nation.

Of the eleven persons reported to have been lynched only one was lynched for criminal assault. It seems that in other sections of the country, especially in New York and Illinois, lynchings are not confined to the one crime which is usually dealt with under the unwritten law, but in those states, for the least provocation, lynchings are held and especially so is that true during labor trobules. In Illinois, many negroes were lynched simply because they were imported there as strike breakers and no protection, whatever, was given to these helpless beings who were there from no motion of their own, but pursuaded to go there by shrewd labor agents on condition that they were to receive large pay for their work. Such misrepresentations should be made a violation of the law and men guilty of misleading and misrepresenting to these ignorant negroes are responsible for murder and they should so be dealt with.

The south has never experienced as serious outbreaks nor has her people ever been guilty of more heinous crimes than has those people living in these states far removed from the bulk of the population of the negro race.

N Y C SUN
JUNE 27, 1923

Decrease in Lynchings.

The decrease in lynchings in the United States in the first six months of 1923 over the same period of 1922, as reported by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, can be attributed in part to the recent strong agitation for a Federal anti-lynching law. The Dyer bill was talked to death by Southern advocates of States rights, but the mere presentation of the bill and the earnestness of its sponsors succeeded in convincing them that the Southern States must solve this problem.

If the South, as its spokesmen insisted and as the recent prompt action of the authorities in Savannah would seem to prove, can prevent lynchings without assistance from the Federal Government, so much the better. The list of lynchings in 1923 indicates that the South is for almost the first time making a serious effort to root out this evil.

It may also be attributed in part to the alarm felt in the South at the continued migration of negro laborers into the North. Deserted cotton fields present a telling argument in favor of better treatment for the negro race as a whole.

NEW YORK HERALD
JUNE 26, 1923

LYNCHING DROP 66 P. C.

Lynchings in the United States during the first six months of 1923 dropped to 11, as compared with 33 for the same period in 1922, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People announced yesterday.

"The decrease was attributed to agitation for a Federal anti-lynching law, to the northward migration of negroes and the consequent desire to retain negro labor in the South. Florida had three lynchings, Georgia, two, and Arkansas, Alabama, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri and Texas one each.

BUFFALO N Y NEWS
JUNE 27, 1923

LYNCHINGS DECREASE.

In the first six months of last year, 33 persons were lynched in the United States. Thus far this year there have been but 11 lynchings. Every American who has any pride in his country and who has looked with a feeling of shame on the prevalence of mob murders will be heartened at the news that the right of a man to his day in court is better regarded.

There is reason to believe that the decrease in lynching is no mere temporary thing, but is indicative of a real change in the Southern attitude towards the negro. Alarmed by the rapidly increasing migration of negroes to the North, representative Southerners are striving to get fair play for the colored people. They are creating a sentiment against extra-legal process.

The agitation in congress for a federal law against lynching also has shown the South that the nation at large will no longer tolerate mob murders. The Atlanta sheriff who at the risk of his life recently protected a negro prisoner against a mob, furnishes living proof of this change of attitude. There are no terms of commendation strong enough for it.

N Y C MAIL
JUNE 26, 1923

Lynching on Wane

Lynchings have decreased by more than 50 per cent in this country, figures compiled by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People show. There were only eleven lynchings in the first half of this year, compared with thirty-three for the same period in 1922.

DECREASE IN LYNCHINGS.

The New York Age 6-30-23

At this moment of writing the first six months of the year 1923 shows a sharp decrease in the number of lynchings in the United States as compared with the same period in 1922. Up to this date in 1922 there had been thirty-three lynchings. For the same period in the present year the figures show eleven lynchings a decrease by two-thirds.

The lynchings so far this year have been confined entirely to the Southern States. The roll of dishonor is as follows: Florida, 3; Georgia, 2; Arkansas, 1; Alabama, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 1; Missouri, 1; Texas, 1.

Of the eleven victims ten were Negroes and of the ten Negroes only one was accused of an attack upon a white woman. The other charges included cattle-stealing, accusing white men of stealing, being a railroad striker, aiding in the escape of a fugitive. One of the victims was burned to death after his hands and feet had been cut off.

This is the most decided drop in lynching that has occurred since authentic records have been kept, that is, within the past thirty-five years. Of course, it yet remains to be seen what the total for the year will be, but the first six months are encouraging.

The question naturally arises, what is the cause of this marked decrease? It is too sharp and sudden not to be due to some direct cause or causes. We believe that there are several causes. The first in improtance was the agitation in Congress for the passage of a Federal anti-lynching law. The anti-lynching bill did not become a law in the last Congress, but enough was done to serve notice upon the lynching states that such a law would inevitably come unless lynching was stopped.

Following the fight for the passage of the Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill, Southern states, communities and individuals, especially the white southern press, have been bringing pressure to stamp out the lynching evil. The action last week of the authorities at Savannah and the Governor of the State of Georgia is an example of the determination which has been aroused in the people of the South.

Following the fight for the Anti-Lynching Bill in Congress there arose another factor which had had a marked influence within the last two or three months, and that is the migration of colored people from the South. This has brought home to the white people of the South the necessity of doing something to protect colored citizens in their fundamental human rights. They know that this must be done if they are to retain Negro labor in the South.

Let us continue to fight in Congress for a Federal anti-lynching bill and let the migration go on.

LYNCHINGS CUT FROM 33 TO 11 DURING 6 MONTHS

New York, June 25.—Lynchings in the United States during the first six months of 1923 dropped to 11, as compared with 33 for the same period in 1922, the National association for the advancement of colored people announced today.

The decrease was attributed to agitation for a federal anti-lynching law, to the northward migration of negroes, and the subsequent desire to retain negro labor in the south. Florida had three lynchings, Georgia two, and Arkansas, Alabama, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri and Texas, one each, the association said.

Lynchings—1923
N.A.A.C.P., Press Reports.

Jan.—June.

1347

HARTFORD CONN COURANT
JULY 1, 1923

LYNCHINGS DECREASE.

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People tells the press of the country that it notes a sharp decrease in the number of lynchings for the first six months of 1923, as compared with the corresponding period of 1922, as eleven have been reported this year, as against thirty-three in the first half of the preceding year.

Florida, the state where it is assumed that northern influence is strong, led with three cases. Georgia followed with two, Georgia being the state in which the Ku Klux Klan has its headquarters, and Arkansas, Alabama, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri and Texas follow with one lynching each. The Carolinas, it will be observed, do not figure in the list. Ten of the eleven victims were negroes, but only one was accused of an attack upon a white woman. The other charges include being accused of cattle stealing, accusing white men of stealing from pay envelopes, being a striker, and aiding in the escape of a fugitive.

J. W. Johnson, secretary of the association, attributes the decrease to agitation for a federal anti-lynching law and to the northward migration of negroes and the consequent desire to retain them in the South. It may be so, but though we have no other explanation to offer we do not think that a mob bent upon lynching a "nigger" would be deterred by purely economic reasons. Can one imagine a leading citizen in a town in any of the states mentioned dispersing a crowd of bloodthirsty men by telling them that their act would increase the percentage of negroes who are migrating northward?

Reading a series of percentages might incline the mob to lynch the orator, but, having made that hopeful beginning, they would also lynch the colored man. The talk regarding the Dyer bill may have had an effect, though we doubt it, but economics have never prevented a lynching; of that, one may be sure.

NEWARK N J CALL
JULY 1, 1923

Lynchings Decrease.

Sharp decrease in the number of lynchings in the United States for the first six months of 1923 as compared with 1922 was reported last week by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, 70 Fifth avenue, New York city, whose figures show eleven lynchings for the first half year as against thirty-three for the same period last year. By States the lynchings were distributed as follows for the first six months of 1923:

Florida, 3; Georgia, 2; Arkansas, 1; Alabama, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 1; Missouri, 1; Texas, 1. Total, 11.

Only one of the eleven victims, ten of them Negroes, was accused of attack upon a white woman, the other charges including cattle stealing, accusing white men of stealing from pay envelope, being a railroad striker, aiding in escape of a fugitive. One of the victims was burned to death after his hands and feet had been cut off.

The decrease in lynching is attributed by James Weldon Johnson, secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, to agitation in Congress for a Federa anti-lynching law, to the northward migration of Negroes and the consequent desire to retain Negro labor in the South by securing protection of life to colored people.

LITTLE ROCK ARK. GAZETTE
JUNE 26, 1923

ARE FEWER LYNCHINGS

Total for 1923 to Date Far Behind 1922 Figures Show.

New York, June 25.—Lynchings in the United States during the first six months of 1923 dropped to 11, as compered with 33 for the same period in 1922, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, announced today.

The decrease is attributed to agitation for a federal antilynching law, to the Northward migration of negroes, and the consequent desire to retain negro labor in the South. Florida had three lynchings, Georgia two and Arkansas, Alabama, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri and Texas, one each, the association said.

N Y TIMES
JUNE 26, 1923

Lynchings Drop From 33 to 11 For Six Months' Period

Lynchings in the United States in the first six months of 1923 dropped to eleven, compared with thirty-three for the same period in 1922, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People announced yesterday.

The decrease was attributed to agitation for a Federal anti-lynching law, to the northward migration of negroes and the consequent desire to retain negro labor in the South. Florida had three lynchings, Georgia two, and Arkansas, Alabama, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri and Texas one each.

N Y C JOURNAL
JUNE 26, 1923

LYNCHINGS DROP TO 11 COMPARED WITH 33

Lynchings in the United States in the first six months of 1923 dropped to eleven, compared with thirty-three for the same period in 1922, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People announces. The decrease was attributed to agitation for a Federal anti-lynching law and to the northward migration of negroes.

Lynchings Drop From 33 to 11 For Six Months' Period

Lynchings in the United States in the first six months of 1923 dropped to eleven, compared with thirty-three for the same period in 1922, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People announced yesterday.

The decrease was attributed to agitation for a Federal anti-lynching law, to the northward migration of negroes and the consequent desire to retain negro labor in the South. Florida had three lynchings, Georgia two, and Arkansas, Alabama, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri and Texas one each.

LYNCHINGS CUT TWO-THIRDS

Thirty-Three Hanged in First Six Months of 1922; 11 This Year.

New York, June 25.—Sharp decrease in the number of lynchings in the United States for the first six months of 1923 as compared with 1922 was reported today by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, whose figures show eleven lynchings for the first half year as against thirty-three for the corresponding period last year.

By states the lynchings were: Florida, 3; Georgia, 2; Arkansas, 1; Alabama, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 1; Missouri, 1, and Texas, 1.

Only one of the eleven victims, ten of them negroes, was accused of an attack upon a white woman. One of the victims was burned to death after his hands and feet had been cut off.

The decrease is attributed by James Weldon Johnson, secretary of the association, to agitation in congress for a federal antilynching law, to the northward migration of negroes and the consequent desire to retain negro labor in the south by securing protection of life to colored persons.

N Y C WORLD
JUNE 26, 1923

U. S. LYNCHINGS DECREASE.

Eleven Negroes Slain by Mobs in Six Months of 1923.

Lynchings in the United States during the first six months of 1923 dropped to eleven, compared with thirty-three for the same period in 1922, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People announced yesterday.

The decrease was attributed to agitation for a Federal Anti-Lynch Law, to the northward migration of Negroes and the consequent desire to retain Negro labor in the South. Florida had three lynchings, Georgia two and Arkansas, Alabama, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri and Texas one each.

LYNCHINGS DECREASE.

Drop From 33 in First Half of 1922 to 11 in Same Period 1923.

NEW YORK, June 26—Lynchings in the United States during the first six months of 1923 dropped to eleven, as compared with thirty-three for the same period in 1922, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People has announced.

The decrease was attributed to agitation for a federal anti-lynching law, to the northward migration of negroes and the consequent desire to retain negro labor in the south. Florida had three lynchings, Georgia two, and Arkansas, Alabama, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri and Texas one each, the association said.

WASHINGTON D C PATHFIND
JULY 7, 1923

Lynching Decreasing. The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People announced that there were only 11 lynchings in the United States so far this year as compared with 33 for the corresponding period last year. The decrease, thinks the association, was caused by the agitation for a federal anti-lynching law, the northward migration of negroes and the desire to keep negro laborers in the South.

N Y CITY WALL ST JOURNAL
JUNE 27, 1923

Lynchings in U. S. drop from 33 to 11 in six ? and the latter figure is indefensible.

WILKESBARRE PA [illegible]
JULY 2, 1923

LYNCHINGS DECREASING

Sharp decrease in the number of lynchings in the United States for the first six months of 1923 as compared with 1922 is reported by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, whose figures show eleven lynchings for the first half year, as against 33 for the same period last year. Only one of the eleven victims, ten of them negroes, was accused of an attack upon a white woman, the other charges including: Cattle stealing, accusing white men of stealing from pay envelope, being a railroad striker, aiding in escape of a fugitive. One of the victims was burned to death after his hands and feet had been cut off. The decrease in lynching is attributed by James Weldon Johnson, secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, to agitation in congress for a federal anti-lynching law, to the narthward migration of negroes and the consequent desire to retain negro labor in the South by securing protection of life to black people.

Charleston S. C.
News
JUL 28 1923

Decrease in Lynchings.

(From the Louisville Courier Journal.)

Whatever the causes may be it is gratifying to all law-abiding citizens, North, South, East and West that there is a decided decrease in the number of lynchings in the United States. For the first six months of 1923 the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People reports only eleven such cases as against thirty-three for the same period in 1922.

The idea that mob law is not law but murder is undoubtedly growing in all sections of the country. That perhaps has accounted for much of this decrease. The association stresses the agitation in Congress for a Federal anti-lynching law as an important deterrent factor. Though the Dyer bill was talked to death when the measure was considered the very fact of this volubility on the subject has had the effect of helpful propaganda for justice as opposed to mob violence.

The association considers the Northern migration of negroes has also tended to reduce the number of lynchings, with the consequent desire of the people of the South to retain the negro laborers, putting forth greater effort for the protection of the lives of these valuable workers in that section. This is the opinion of the secretary of the association and may be accepted only as an opinion.

The most plausible cause, which is not mentioned in the report, is that the negro himself is more law-abiding. The passing of the saloon helped in bringing this about and with the lapse of years there will come still greater improvement.

UTICA N Y PRESS
JUNE 29, 1923

Lynchings in the United States in the first six months of 1923 dropped to 11, compared with 33 for the same period in 1922, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People announces. The decrease is attributed to agitation for a Federal anti-lynching law, to the northward migration of negroes and the consequent desire to retain negro labor in the South. Florida had three lynchings, Georgia two, and Arkansas, Alabama, Louisiana, Missippi, Missouri and Texas one each.

INDIANAPOLIS IND NEWS
JUNE 28, 1923

DECREASE IN LYNCHINGS

An announcement by the National Association for Colored People that in the first six months of 1923 there were only eleven lynchings in the United States compared with thirty-three in the same period in the previous year, gives some basis for hope that this is a diminishing evil. In the statement the decrease is attributed to agitation for a federal anti-lynching law, migration of large numbers of negroes from the south to the north, and a consequent desire to retain negroes in the south. Members of the negro race have long been the principal sufferers from the unlawful and brutal practice. No doubt the conditions referred to have been influential in the betterment, but the question remains as to whether some credit should not be given the southern people themselves.

It has been true, of course, that most of the lynchings in this country have been in the south, although the north has not by any means been free from such blots and has had several outbreaks in which many negroes were killed. All of the eleven lynchings enumerated for this year were in southern states — if Missouri be included as southern — Florida leading with three, Georgia having two, and Arkansas, Alabama, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri and Texas one each. Yet there always has been too much of a tendency in other parts of the country to think of the south as a unit in its approval of lynching. The truth is that disregard of the rights of negroes accused or suspected of crime always has been confined to a minority of the population. None has been quicker to express disapproval than the predominant element, one that is as sturdy and as sincere in its support of Anglo-Saxon principles of right and fair play as any element in northern states. Neither has the southern press been slow in condemning lynching.

So to superficial and practical reasons assigned as causes for the decline must be linked the continued struggle of southern organizations and newspapers to have right prevail simply because it is right, regardless of utilitarian effects. It is too early to say that the fight is won, or that in future years there may not be more lynchings than there have been in past years. For one thing there were eleven too many in the first half of 1923. However, possessed of the knowledge of what the south has done and is doing in the way of better and more schools, in diversified and expanding industry, and in enlightened development in many other directions, there can be little doubt as to the final outcome concerning lynchings.

TRENTON N J TIMES
JULY 5, 1923

DECREASE IN LYNCHINGS.

Since January 1, there have been only eleven lynchings in the United States, according to reports collected by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. During the first six months of 1922 there were thirty-three. Of the eleven victims but one was accused of attacking a white woman. The offenses of the others were such as would have been sufficiently punished by short terms of imprisonment.

Apparently the country-wide agitation of the negroes for the passage by Congress of an anti-lynching law has had a good effect and it may be that people in the Southern States see in the great immigration of negroes to the North a practical protest against the treatment they have been getting. The eleven lynchings this year were in Florida, Georgia, Arkansas, Mississippi, Louisiana, Alabama, Missouri and Texas.

Cochran Ga Courier
JUL 12 1923

FEWER LYNCHINGS

Lynchings in the United States have decreased from last year, according to the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. The first six months of the present year show that only 11 negroes died at the hands of mobs, while in the same period of 1922 33 were killed. The association attributes the decrease to the agitation for a federal anti-lynch law, the heavy migration northward of negroes and the consequent desire of the whites to retain negro labor in the South.

These reasons may be well founded, but it would be entirely complimentary to the negro race for the association to admit that, perhaps, an improvement in the conduct of the negroes themselves also has had a beneficial effect. While condemning lynchings, all and sundry, as brutal and vicious it is possible to point out that some crimes committed by negroes in the South have been of such a nature that no one wonders when the whites are aroused to fury. Lynchings ought to be stopped, but the mob is not the only element responsible for it. The negroes themselves could eliminate much of their distress in this regard by showing better behavior, and it is more than likely that the improvement for this year is due in part to that.—Dawson News.

N Y C CALL
JULY 15, 1923

The Savage Record of a Year

THE thirteenth annual report of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People carries a brief digest of the activities of this organization for the year 1922. An interesting item for the year is a number of lynchings. There were a total of 61 human beings lynched, all of them in the Southern states. Texas heads the list with 16 and Georgia is a close second with 11. There were 19 shot, 18 hanged, eight burned and three burned after death. Texas also heads the list of those burned, with six for the year.

Year after year these statistics are compiled, a hideous reminder that the beast stalks in the region that is peopled by the purest of American stock, a region that boasts of less foreign blood than any other sectio Not that the North is stainless. Within the past ten years we have had fearful race riots, which indicate that the beast has its habitat here also. But where in the South there is a regular and continuous number of victims added to the national infamy, in the North it is an occasional outburst. However, the North makes up in savage fury what it lacks in continuous beastliness, as the Chicago, East St. Louis and Philadelphia riots a few years ago show.

A nation where this gruesome thing has become a commonplace matter of news indicates a survival of something barbaric in the makeup of its population. Not until human beings are safe from this hideous savagery can it be said that the United States has acquired the right of being admitted to the family of nations.

Lynchings—1923.
N.A.A.C.P. Press Reports on.

Jan. — June.

1348

MEMPHIS, TENN. SCIMITAR
JULY 2, 1923

Lynchings Decrease

According to a statement issued for the Association for the Advancement of Colored People, there were 11 lynchings during the first six months of this year, as compared with 29 during the same period a year ago. In the face of this statement it must be admitted that conditions are bad, but there is reason for feeling that the situation is growing better. The decrease in the number of lynchings is a matter for congratulation.

It is notable that Tennessee does not have a single instance of the triumph of mob law charged against it. The only lynchings to take place in Tennessee within the past year were two white men, who were taken from jail and lynched by their own race.

The secretary of the association which gave out the figures, as usual fails to give the South any credit for the decrease in lynchings, which everyone knows is attributable to two causes. The first is a decrease in the number of offenses which usually precipitate a mob and the second is the growth of sentiment against permitting a mob to overthrow the law. The association claims the improvement is due to the agitation for a federal antilynching law and the migration of negro labor to the North.

The threat of a federal law to curb lynchings has never been taken seriously in the South. It has been difficult to make the South's viewpoint understood, and some have been unjust enough to consider resentment against a federal law on the subject as a defense of lynching. The situation may be more accurately described by saying that the South has never failed to appreciate the demoralizing effect of mob rule, but has felt that so far as it affects the South, it is a local problem, to be handled by local authorities and eradicated through the cultivation of public sentiment against it.

In spite of the criticism of the South and lack of understanding on the part of other sections, a great majority of the best citizenship has always opposed lynching, and eventually the evil will be completely eradicated.

[redacted], GA. NEWS
JUN 2 8 1923

LYNCHING RECORD.

Lynchings for the first six months of this year in the South have numbered eleven, as against 33 for the same period of 1922. That is an improvement worth noting; for, although it is true that there are great fluctuations in statistics of this sort, the indications are that lynching is passing out. One report is that of the eleven persons lynched, only one was guilty of criminal assault and one was not a negro. The decrease of lynchings means that there is coming to be a greater respect for law, not specially a great decrease in crime, but a clearer understanding of the necessity of law-obedience on the part of populations of communities. That one man commits a terrible crime does not give several hundred men legal permission to break the law and kill him.

Lynchings—1923.
N.A.A.C.P., Press Reports on.

Jan.—Dec.

1349

1349

Figures Released Show a Total of Twenty-Six Instances of Mob Murder as Compared to Sixty-one for 1922. Texas No Longer Leads.

New York, January 4—Sharp decline in the number of lynchings in the United States during the year 1923, the figure being 26 as against 61 in 1922, was laid to the agitation for a federal anti-lynching law, and to the northward migration of Negroes, in a statement to day by James Weldon Johnson. Secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, 69 5th avenue, New York.

Mississippi and Florida leads the list of lynching states with 5 mob murders each. Georgia is second with 4. Oklahoma is third with 3. Arkansas, Alabama and Texas have 2 each. Other states in which one lynching occurred are: Louisiana, Missouri and Virginia.

Only 7 out of the 26 persons were charged with assault upon women, and in the case of one of the seven, the janitor of the University of Missouri, grave doubt was subsequently cast upon the guilt of the mob's victim. Other offenses for which lynchings occurred include; mistaken identity, aiding in escape, associating with white women, being in an automobile accident, remaining in a town where Negroes were not wanted, and frightening white children by walking harmlessly along a country road. Two of the victims of lynching mobs were white men. One Colored woman was lynched in Pickens, Mississippi.

"Two main causes brought about the decline in lynching in 1923," said Mr. Johnson. "First was the agitation on the floor of Congress, and throughout the country, for a federal anti-lynching bill, the measure introduced by Mr. Dyer passing the last House of Representatives by a vote of 230 to 119. The second main cause was the northward migration of Negroes by the hundreds of thousands. This has impressed in on the [illegible] will have to be stopped if the best labor the South can get for its plantations and industries is to be retained. Prospects for the enactment of the Dyer Anti-lynching Bill in the present Congress are excellent, in the light of Pres'dent Coolidge's anti-lynching pronouncement in his message to Congress. It is to be hoped that in a very few years, the crime of lynching will have been completely wiped out in America."

TWENTY-SIX LYNCHED IN UNITED STATES THIS YEAR

New York, Dec. 28.—Sharp decline in the number of lynchings in the United States during the year 1923, the figures being 26 as against 61 in 1922, was laid to the agitation for a federal anti-lynching law, and to the northward migration of Negroes, in a statement recently by James Weldon Johnson, secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, 69 Fifth Ave., New York.

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Migration Settling Lynching Problem While Dyer Bill Sleeps

There were twenty-six lynchings in the United States in 1923 as compared with sixty-one in 1922. The decrease of more than fifty per cent can be attributed to the unprecedented migration of more than 600,000 Negroes from the South this year. Fear of mob violence has been given in every list of "causes" for the migration.

Mississippi and Florida are leading with five known lynchings each; Georgia is credited with four; Oklahoma three; Arkansas, Texas and Alamaba are credited with two each; while Louisiana, Missouri and Virginia have reported one each.

While the Dyer Bill hangs in the balance, the Negro takes his case into his own hands and migrates. Pat Harrison and Oscar Underwood can filibuster the Dyer Bill out of the Senate and the migrating Negro filibusters the lynchers.

LYNCHINGS DECREASE.

Firgures recently made public by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People indicate that the nation has chosen during the past twelve months, to decrease its number of lynchings. According to its figures there were only twenty-six lynchings in 1923 as compared to sixty-one in 1922. To this number, unfortunately we must add at least two which took place between the release of these statistics and the close of the year.

The reason for the decline in lynchings is attributed by the association to the fact that there was, during the year, much agitation for an anti-lynching measure in Congress and to the Northward Migration of Negroes.

Whatever the cause for the lessening may have been, it is nevertheless gratifying to note the decrease. And especially is it pleasing to find that Texas has relinguished her rank among the leaders in what has almost become a national pastime, to her sister states Florida and Mississippi.

It is unfortunate that lynching should be tolerated at all in a nation which boasts the enlightenment which America claims is hers. It is a loathsome and degrading practice which might well be delegated, say, to the unspeakable Turk or the barbaric Hun, or to any of those other less favored peoples, as we have been taught to consider them. (It is a fact however that among none of them have we heard of practices any more barbarous than lynching.)

America, the nation, loses in respect for law, in adherence to the fundamentals of democracy, in the self-respect of her several communities every time the public as a mob rather than through its representatives of the law, does a human being to death and makes merry at his agonies made the more acute by the many hideous devices which the savagery and bestiality of the mob so cunningly devises.

Whether through an anti-lynching law or through the pressure of the moral force of public opinion, the need for its absolute abolition It is undermining the general respect of the individuals of the nation for law as such. It is .....? the conscience of the citizenry and making savagery rather than orderly proceedure the thing to be demanded atnd sought.

America would gain the more, however, if, through the force of a purer and more high class public conscience and opinion than is now the case, it could abolish this degrading practice. Such a victory in its moral effect upon America as a social and civic unity would far outweigh the effect of the same result brought about by means of the continued pressure of a federal law. But present day signs do not point with sufficient force to the existence of an organized public opinion or conscience in this drection.

It is to be hoped though that such in time will be the cause. America owes it to herself. To take such a step would be to commit an act of self preservation.

1924 is just beginning. It is as an open book upon which another twelve months record is to be written. It is the duty of every person to make that record a little better than any previous record has been in honesty, thrift, and constant striving for better things.

26 LYNCHINGS IN 1923

N. A. A. C. P. Figures Just Issued Show Sharp Decline in Mob Outbreaks

61 LYNCHED IN 1922

Decline Due to Migration and Agitation for Federal Anti-Lynch Bill

New York, Dec. 27.—Sharp decline in the number of lynchings in the United States during the year 1923, the figure being 26 as against 61 in 1922, was laid to the agitation for a Federal anti-lynching law, and to the northward migration of Negroes, in a statement today by James Weldon Johnson, secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

Mississippi and Florida lead the list of lynching States with 5 mob murders each. Georgia is second with 4. Oklahoma is third with 3. Arkansas, Alabama and Texas have each. Other States in which one lynching occurred are: Louisiana, Missouri and Virginia.

Seven Assault Cases

Only 7 out of the 26 persons were charged with assault upon women, and in the case of one of the seven, the janitor of the University of Missouri, grave doubt was subsequently cast upon the guilt of the mob's victim. Other offenses for which lynchings occurred include: mistaken identity, aiding inescape, associating with white women, being in an automobile accident, remaining in a town where Negroes were not wanted, and frightening white children by walking harmlessly along a country road. Two of the victims of lynching mobs were white men. One colored woman was lynched in Pickens, Miss.

Migration a Cause

"Two main causes brought about the decline in lynching in 1923," said Mr. Johnson. "First was the agitation on the floor of Congress and throughout the country, for a Federal anti-lynching bill, the measure introduced by Mr. Dyer passing the last House of Represen-

tatives by a vote of 230 to 119.

The second main cause was the Northward migration of Negroes by the hundreds of thousands. This has borne in on the South that lynchings will have to be stopped if the best labor the South can get for its plantations and industries is to be retained.

Prospects for the enactment of the Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill in the present Congress are excellent, in the light of President Coolidge's anti-lynching pronouncement in his message to Congress. It is to be hoped that in a very few years, the crime of lynching will have been completely wiped out in America."

26 LYNCHINGS IN 1923 AGAINST 61 LAST YEAR

Decline in Mob Rule Murders Laid to Agitation for Federal Law and Migration. Mississippi and Florida Lead with 5 Each.

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LYNCHINGS IN 1923.

(Indianapolis News.)

Barring further outbreaks, the year 1923 will end with a record of 26 persons lynched in the United States. That is by far the smallest number of cases in which men have visited punishment by death outside the law for crimes, real or alleged, since 1880. The peak was in 1892, when 208 persons met death at the hands of mobs. In many years the number was more than a hundred and with the exception of this year, it has not under 50 until 1917, when there was a decline to 38. The next year there were 64; in 1919, 83; in 1920, 61; in 1921, 64, and in 1922, 61.

No record on lynchings can be said to be good as long as there is occasion to enumerate any examples of people taking unto themselves to inflict punishment without process of law. Nevertheless, the record of 1923 shows a commendable improvement. It was two years ago that a special section of a Georgia state committee on inter-racial co-operation, which was composed of women, appealed to the public against the brutality that so often has been defended on the ground that it was for the protection of women. The members of the committee section were agreed that there was no "crime more dangerous than that which strikes at the root of, and undermines, constituted authority; substitutes mob violence and masked irresponsibility for established justice, and deprives society against a sense of protection against barbarism."

Continued migration of negroes northward and agitation for a federal anti-lynching law are cited by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored Pople as causes for this year's decrease. Probably they have had a salutary effect. But no doubt the truth the southern women themselves preached is sinking in. Respect for law that is compelled is never as effective as respect that grows out of an awakened consciousness of wrong. Lynching is lawlessness, and lawlessness breeds more lawlessness. Leaders in the south long have been preaching that. Due weight should be accorded the effect of their words.

26 LYNCHINGS IN 1923 AS AGAINST 61 DURING 1922

Decline in Mob Murders Laid to Agitation for Federal Law and Migration—Mississippi and Florida Lead With Five Each

NEW YORK, Dec. 21.—Sharp decline in the number of lynchings in the United States during the year 1923, the figure being 26 as against 61 in 1922, was laid to the agitation for a federal anti-lynching law, and to the northward migration of Negroes, in a statement today by James Weldon Johnson, secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, 69 Fifth Avenue, New York.

Mississippi and Florida leads the list of lynchburg States with 5 mob murders each. Georgia is second with 4. Oklahoma is third with 3. Arkansas, Alabama and Texas have 2 each. Other States in which one lynching occurred are Louisiana, Missouri and Virginia.

Only 7 out of the 26 persons were charged with assault upon women, and in the case of one of the seven, the janitor of the University of Missouri, grave doubt was subsequently cast upon the guilt of the mob's victim. Other offenses for which lynchings occurred include mistaken identity, aiding in escape, associating with white women, being in an automobile accident, remaining in a town where Negroes were not wanted, and frightening white children by walking harmlessly along a country road. Two of the victims of lynching mobs were white men. One colored woman was lynched in Pickens, Miss.

"Two main causes brought about the decline in lynching in 1923," said Mr. Johnson. "First was the agitation on the floor of Congress, and throughout the country, for a federal anti-lynching bill, the measure introduced by Mr. Dyer passing the last House of Representatives by a vote of 230 to 119. The second main cause was the northward migration of Negroes by the hundreds of thousands. This has borne in on the South that lynching will have to be stopped if the best labor the South can get for its plantations and industries is to be retained. Prospects for the enactment of the Dyer Anti-Lynching bill in the present Congress are excellent, in the light of President Coolidge's anti-lynching pronouncement in his message to Congress. It is to be hoped that in a very few years the crime of lynching will have been completely wiped out in America."

Perhaps the Crimes Decreased.

The Association for the Advancement of the Colored People is on safe and reasonable ground when it says that migration of the negroes from the South was a factor in the substantial decrease of lynchings in 1923 as compared with the preceding year, but the claim that the agitation for an "anti-lynching law" had something to do with it is no more than a part of that same agitation.

True as it is that lynching is a crime, an infamous crime, it is also true that crime is usually the occasion for lynching. Not as a rule are innocent persons, white or black, deliberately sought, seized and hanged or burned by lynchers.

Is it not conceivable that the offences inciting lynchers to hang and burn also decreased in 1923? If they did, is not that a creditable fact and one worth mentioning? If, for example, the number of outrageous assaults upon women diminished in 1923, is it not a sign of improvement in morals and conduct about as gratifying as is the diminution in the lawless violence of mobs?

Why is the Association for the Advancement of the Colored People so much more interested in the improvement of the morals of the lynchers than in that of the class that furnishes so many of the victims of the lynchers?

One of the lynchings of 1923 was in Missouri, the state of the author of the Dyer bill.

The State does not for a moment believe that the large number of lynchings in 1922 had influence to deter in 1923 the commission of crimes that provoke lynching, but it would be more reasonable to say so than that the improvement was brought about by agitation for the passage of the Dyer bill.

However, the agitators must live.

LYNCHINGS IN 1923 SHOWS DECREASE

Decline in Mob Murders Laid to Agitation for Federal Law and Migration; Mississippi and Florida Lead With 5 Each.

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ATLANTA, GA., Constitution

DEC 22 1923

LYNCHINGS DECREASE IN 1923, SAYS REPORT

New York, December 21.—Lynchings in the United States during 1923 numbered 28 against 61 in 1922, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People announced today. The decrease was laid to agitation of a federal anti-lynching law and the northward migration of negroes.

Mississippi and Florida were reported to lead with five lynchings each. Georgia was listed 4; Oklahoma 3 and Arkansas, Alabama and Texas, 2, each; Louisiana, Missouri and Virginia one each.

Lynchings—1923.
N.A.A.C.P., Reports on.

Jan.—Dec.

1350

PHILADELPHIA PUBLIC LEDGER
DECEMBER 31, 1923

DECREASE IN LYNCHINGS

Dyer Bill and Migrating Negro Assigned as the Cause

To the Editor of the Public Ledger:

Sir—The Dyer bill fight and the migrating Negro, as a comparison of figures will show, nearly knocked the "l" out of lynch, so that it almost sounds like "inch."

In 1922 there were sixty-one lynch murders. In 1923 (to December 26) there were twenty-six lynch murders. That means a reduction of more than 57 per cent, or, to be more exact with Mr. Lyncher, it means that his business slumped exactly 57.377 per cent plus. Another year like that and he'll have to go into bankruptcy. No business could live on for many years at that rate of decline.

And, strangely enough, the most progressive lynching States in 1922 are the ones suffering the greatest depression in that business in 1923. In 1922 the leading State produced sixteen, while in 1923 the most forward Commonwealths can count no more than five lynchings. Texas, which led with sixteen in 1922, comes up with only two in 1923—a decline of exactly 87½ per cent. Last year Georgia stood second with eleven; this year Georgia is still second, but with only four. Last year Mississippi was third with eight; this year Mississippi is one of the first, but with only five. Last year a State that could produce only two lynchings was hardly worth mentioning. This year it took Arkansas, Alabama and Texas, sharing equal honors, to produce the last six of the twenty-six.

The causes: First, the anti-lynching bill was brought into the Senate, and even though it got lynched there, the business of lynching received a lot of unfavorable advertising all over the country and all over the world.

Then the migrant Negro got on the move and threatened to lessen greatly the supply of lynchable material in some of the most prosperous States. This proves that by a little economic stroke the Negro may do more for himself than all the religions and philanthropies may do for him. It was the heliocentric movement of his northward scurrying heels that chiefly aroused the "bears" who played havoc with the lynching market. Putting the "great" into migrate seems the easiest way to knock the "l" out of lynch.

WILLIAM PICKENS.

New York City, December 28, 1923.

FROM
Jersey Flyer
JAN 3 1924

Judge Lynch's Court Calendar.

The fact that lynchings in the United States during the last year decreased in number is gratifying, and encourages the hope that sooner or later this blot on America will be removed. According to a statement issued by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, there were twenty-six lynchings during 1923, as against sixty-one in 1922. Various causes for this decline in mob murder may be assigned, but the recent exodus of negroes from the South to the North, where they not only receive better wages, and equal advantages with the whites, but are given protection against violence, has had a salutary effect and is bringing the Southerners to a realization that unless they curb lynchings they will lose their labor element and suffer serious losses. Agitation for federal laws against lynching may have been another contributory cause.

Mississippi and Florida lead the list of lynching states, with five each. Georgia is second with four; Oklahoma third, with three, and Arkansas, Alabama and Texas have two each. Other states in which lynchings occurred are Louisiana, Missouri and Virginia. Of the twenty-six persons lynched, seven were accused of crimes against women and in one of the latter cases subsequent developments cast a doubt upon the guilt of the man who was done to death in a horrible manner. This is one of the elements that is always attendant upon mob rule. More than one innocent victim of lynching has been killed. Mob rule is not justice, and there is never lacking the possibility that someone will be punished for a crime he did not commit. More than this, lynching brutalizes all who take part in it and holds up to contempt the orderly administration of the law.

In one town a negro who was warned that colored persons were never permitted to remain over night in the place and who ignored the warning was lynched. He was inoffensive and his only crime apparently was that he was black. Lynching, however, is not confined to the negro. During the year two white men met a similar fate. At Pickens, Miss., a negro woman was put to death by a mob. In discussing this subject before the joint session of Congress, when he delivered his first message, President Coolidge declared that the rights of the 12,000,000 colored people in this country "under our Constitution are just as sacred as those of any other citizen. It is both a public and a private duty to protect those rights. The Congress ought to exercise all its powers of prevention and punishment against the hideous crime of lynching, of which the negroes are by no means the sole sufferers, but for which they furnish a majority of the victims."

It is probable that the Dyer anti-lynching bill will be passed by the present Congress and approved by the President. While this measure may operate to discourage lynchings, the greatest factor will be the realization that unless the negroes are protected against violence the South will suffer heavy losses through lack of sufficient labor to plant, cultivate and harvest the crops. The most valuable laborer the South has is the negro. He is acclimated and can stand the strain of long hours of arduous work under the hot sun far better than can a white man, even when the latter is habituated to these conditions. During the last summer the Southern planters were seriously handicapped by the migration of laborers. Negroes are now being assured of not only fairer treatment, but more pay and living conditions far better than those that have obtained in some sections of the South.

Press Reports
JAN 13 1924
Improved

WE shall have to credit 1923 with at least one gratifying record. Lynchings have reached the lowest level known to any but to those inhabitants whose memories include that golden era described in literature as "befo' the war!" A record of but sixty-one lynchings in 1922 was regarded as encouraging evidence of an increasing morality, but we surprised ourselves when we passed through 1923 with but twenty-six for the whole country—less than one Sunday's automobile record.

In this showing Georgia achieves third place only, her transgressions having been but four. Florida and Mississippi share the lead with five.

The record was published by Robert Weldon Johnson, secretary of the national association for the advancement of colored people, and a graduate of Atlanta University. Among the victims of the lynching mobs were one colored woman and two white men. There was one case of mistaken identity and one lynching for frightening children. The division as to races is not given, from which it may be inferred that the odds were not overwhelmingly against the colored people.

PROVIDENCE JOURNAL
DECEMBER 23, 1923

LESS RACIAL SAVAGERY

According to figures issued by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, there have been 26 lynchings in the United States during the year now drawing to a close. This is 26 too many, but it marks an encouraging improvement over last year's record of no fewer than fil instances in which offenders, real or alleged, suffered death by mob violence.

Lynching is not exclusively a Southern custom; it occasionally disgraces a Northern State; but the 1923 figures show that only on the farther side of the Mason and Dixon Line has it cropped out in the last twelve months. Perhaps some day we shall come to the end of a year in which no lynching has occurred anywhere in the country. It will be a proud day for our boasted but still imperfect twentieth-century civilization.

Jefferson, Ga. Herald
JAN 10 1924

WAS BIG DECREASE IN U. S. LYNCHINGS THE PAST YEAR

Lynchings in the United States during 1923 numbered 26 against 61 in 1922, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, announced today.

Mississippi and Florida were reported as leading with five lynchings each. Georgia was listed with four, Oklahoma three, and Arkansas, Alabama and Texas two each. Louisiana, Missouri and Virginia each had one.

MEMPHIS, TENN. Com'l-Appl
DEC 22 1923

LYNCHINGS REDUCED OVER HALF IN 1923

Mobs Slew Only 26 Compared With 61 Year Before.

NEW YORK, Dec. 21.—Lynchings in the United States during 1923 numbered 26, against 61 in 1922, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People announced today.

Mississippi and Florida were reported to lead with five lynchings each. Georgia was listed with four. Oklahoma three, and Arkansas, Alabama and Texas two each. Louisiana, Missouri and Virginia each had one.

ERSEY CITY N. J. JOURN
DECEMBER 24, 1923

DECLINE IN LYNCHINGS IN 1923

Editor Jersey Journal:

Sir:—There has been a sharp decline in the number of lynchings in the United States during 1923, the figure being 26, as against 61 in 1922, was laid to the agitation for a Federal anti-lynching law, and to the northward migration of Negroes, in a statement made by James Weldon Johnson, secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

Mississippi and Florida leads the list of lynching States with five mob murders each. Georgia is second with four. Oklahoma is third with three. Arkansas, Alabama and Texas have two each. Other States in which one lynching occurred are: Louisiana, Missouri and Virginia.

"Two main causes brought about the decline in lynching in 1923," according to Mr. Johnson. "First was the agitation on the floor of Congress, and throughout the country, for a Federal anti-lynching bill, the measure introduced by Mr. Dyer passing the last House of Representatives by a vote of 230 to 119. The second main cause was the northward migration of the Negroes by the hundreds of thousands. This, in the South, is an indication that lynching will have to be stopped if the best labor the South can get for its plantations and industries is to be retained. Prospects for the enactment of the Dyer Anti-Lynching bill in the present Congress are excellent, in the light of President Coolidge's anti-lynching pronouncement in his message to Congress. It is to be hoped that in a very few years, the crime of lynching will have been completely wiped out in America.

"Very sincerely,
"Moorfield Storey,
"President National Association for the Advancement of Colored People."
New York, Dec. 21, 1923.

BALTIMORE MD EVE SUN
DECEMBER 22, 1923

The Economic Weapon.

The great decrease in lynching in the United States, from 61 in 1922 to 26 this year, is attributed by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People to its own agitation for a Federal anti-lynching law and the Northward migration of negroes. The latter reason is much more plausible than the first, in view of the fact that the association's "agitation" in the South heretofore has often resulted in rioting and increased race animosity. But with an increasing scarcity of negro labor in the cotton fields the Southerner, who has as keen an eye to the main chance as the rest of us, is beginning to see that lynchings cost him money.

This improvement in a bad situation ought to eliminate the possibility of the passage of the Dyer bill and its further and greater infringement upon the police powers of the States. If the lynching evil continues to right itself, the chief argument for the Dyer bill will have been taken away.

Lynchings - 1923.
N.A.A.C.P. Reports on,

1351

NEW YORK CITY WORLD
DECEMBER 31, 1923

LYNCHING DECLINES.

The Editor of The World:

The Dyer bill fight and the migrating Negro, figures show, have affected the lynching record. In 1922 there were sixty-one lynch murders. In 1923 (to Dec. 26) there were twenty-six lynch murders. That means a reduction of more than 57 per cent., or, to be more exact with Mr. Lyncher, it means that his business slumped 57 per cent. Another year like that and he'll have to go into bankruptcy. No business could live on for many years at that rate of decline.

And, strangely enough, the most progressive lynching States in 1922 are the ones suffering the greatest depression in that business in 1923. In 1922 the leading State produced sixteen, while in 1923 the most forward Commonwealths can count no more than five lynchings. Texas, leading with sixteen in 1922, comes up with only two in 1923, a decline of 87½ per cent. Last year Georgia stood second with eleven; this year Georgia is still second, but with only four. Last year Mississippi was third with eight; this year Mississippi is one of the first, but with only five. Last year a State that could produce only two lynchings was hardly worth mentioning; this year it took Arkansas, Alabama and Texas, sharing equal honors, to produce the last six of the twenty-six. Last year eleven States produced each two or more lynchings; this year only seven States produced two or more. And but for the meagre help of Missouri and Virginia, who were not in the business at all in 1922, the results for the enterprise might have been even more disastrous in 1923.

The explanation: First, the Anti-Lynching Bill was carried into the Senate, and even though it got lynched there the business of lynching received a lot of unfavorable advertising all over the country and all over the world.

Then the migrant Negro got on the move and threatened to greatly lessen the supply of lynchable material in some of the most prosperous States. This proves that by a little economic stroke the Negro may do more for himself than all the religions and philanthropies may do for him. It was the heliocentric movement of his northward-scurrying heels that chiefly aroused the "bears" who played havoc with the lynching market.

New York, Dec. 28. WILLIAM PICKENS.

UTICA N Y DISPATCH
DECEMBER 26 1923

Fewer Lynchings.

A report from the association for the advancement of colored people has one very encouraging feature, as it shows that the number of lynchings, which in 1922 was 61, has declined to 26 so far this year. Only seven out of the 26 lynched persons were charged with assault upon women.

Two main causes are given for the reduction of lynchings. One of these is the agitation of the passage of an anti-lynching law through Congress; and the other is the somewhat extensive migration of negroes to the North.

But there is still another reason, and doubtless the strongest one of all. The crime of assault and attack upon women has not been as frequent as in the past.

There were less than half as many lynchings in the United States in 1923 as in 1922, and the famous negro institute of Tuskegee reports that 46 lynchings were prevented last year "by officers of the law"—an encouraging fact. The National Association for the Advancement of the Coloured People attributes the improved state of affairs to the northward migration of hundreds of thousands of negroes and to the fear of Federal intervention inspired in the south by the Dyer anti-lynching Bill. There is still plenty of room for improvement, for the *New York Nation* reports that 26 violent deaths were suffered in cases of "mistaken identity, aiding in escape, associating with white women, being in an automobile accident and remaining in a town where negroes were not wanted and frightening white children by walking on a country road."

NEW YORK CITY POST
FEBRUARY 11, 1924

MORE ANTI-LYNCHING FUND

$6,000 From National Association and $10,000 in Prospect

As part of a general drive to raise funds for a campaign against lynching, a negro meeting was held in the Abyssinian Baptist Church, 138th street and Seventh avenue, yesterday. Several hundred dollars was contributed, following announcement that $6000 had been received from the treasurer of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, and that Philip G. Peabody, a Boston lawyer, not a negro, has pledged another thousand, if the association raised $9000 in sixty days.

Representative Hamilton Fish, jr., captain of the Fifteenth Infantry during the war, the chief speaker, denounced lynching and praised the negro race. He said a petition of 124,455 signatures was given to President Coolidge Thursday, asking for the pardon of the fifty-four negroes still remaining in Leavenworth Prison for "alleged participation" in the Houston, Tex., riots of August, 1917.

INDIANAPOLIS IND NEWS
DECEMBER 25, 1923

LYNCHINGS IN 1923

Barring [illegible] the year 1923 will end with a record of twenty-six persons lynched in the United States. That is by far the smallest number of cases in which men have visited punishment by death outside the law for crimes, real or alleged, since 1889. The peak was in 1892, when 208 persons met death at the hands of mobs. In many years the number was more than a hundred and, with the exception of this year, it was not under fifty until 1917, when there was a decline to 38. The next year there were 64; in 1919, 83; in 1920, 61; in 1921, 64, and in 1922, 61.

No record on lynchings can be said to be good as long as there is occasion to enumerate any examples of people taking it on themselves to inflict punishment withone due process of law. Nevertheless, the record of 1923 shows a commendable improvement. It was two years ago that a special section of a Georgia state committee on inter-racial co-operation, which was composed of women, appealed to the public against the brutality that so often has been defended on the ground that it was for the protection of women. The members of the committee section were agreed that there was no "crime more dangerous than that which strikes at the root of, and undermines, constituted authority; substitutes mob violence and masked irresponsibility for established justice, and deprives society against a sense of protection against barbarism."

Continued migration of negroes northward and agitation for a federal anti-lynching law are cited by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People as causes for this year's decrease. Probably they have had a salutary effect. But no doubt the truth the southern women themselves preached is sinking in. Respect for law that is compelled is never as effective as respect that grows out of an awakened consciousness of wrong. Lynching is lawlessness, and lawlessness breeds more lawlessness. Leaders in the south long have been preaching that. Due weight should be accorded the effect of their words.

LOS ANGELES CAL EXPRESS
JANUARY 23, 1924

LYNCHINGS

During the last thirty-six years more than 4000 lynchings have taken place in the United States. Colored folk for the most part have been the victims of the mob violence of which these lynchings were the lawless fruit. The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People has striven intelligently and persistently to build up sentiment in repression of an evil that in itself was a monstrous wrong and a national disgrace. Undoubtedly a great change has been wrought north and south in the public's attitude toward mob violence, but the evil has not yet been extirpated. Lynching is no longer advocated or defended, but the methods employed for punishing it when it occurs remain very defective.

The change in public sentiment is accurately appraised by the January Current History magazine, in which it is stated:

"Whereas lynching was condoned so little as 15 years ago by newspaper editors, and even by clergymen in the pulpit, no reputable man in public life would now dare to utter such sentiments."

The change is emphasized by editorials in such thoroughly representative southern newspapers as the Atlanta Journal, that expresses its gratification at the reduction in the number of lynchings as "encouraging evidence of an increasing morality."

The Tuskegee Normal and Industrial institute, founded by Booker T. Washington, through its excellent department of records and research, year by year dispassionately has presented all the ascertainable facts concerning lynchings. It finds that there were 28 lynchings in 1923 as against 57 in 1922, and that "there were 46 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings." All but two of those lynched last year were Negroes and two of the Negroes were women. Among the definitely ascertained causes given for mob violence were "cattle stealing," "trying to act like white men and not knowing his place," "striking man in an altercation," etc. Relatively few lynchings were attributed to that crime which in past years ordinarily has been designated as the cause of mob violence.

Viewed relatively, the record shows social and moral improvement. Viewed absolutely it indicates the need of just such federal legislation as has been sought from congress, by which communities that tolerate lynching would be made to pay a highly deterrent penalty.

PHILADELPHIA PUBLIC LEDGER
DECEMBER 27, 1923

FEWER LYNCHED IN 1923

Progress of Dyer Bill and Fear of Migration Cited as Causes

To the Editor of the Public Ledger:

Sir—There has been a sharp decline in the number of lynchings in the United States during the year 1923, the figure being twenty-six, as against sixty-one in 1922.

Mississippi and Florida lead the list of lynching States with five mob murders each. Georgia is second with four. Oklahoma is third with three. Arkansas, Alabama and Texas have two each. Other States in which one lynching occurred are Louisiana, Missouri and Virginia.

Only seven out of the twenty-six persons were charged with attacks upon women, and in the case of one of the seven, the janitor of the University of Missouri, grave doubt was subsequently cast upon the guilt of the mob's victim. Other offenses for which lynchings occurred include mistaken identity, aiding in escape, associating with white women, being in an automobile accident, remaining in a town where Negroes were not wanted and frightening white children by walking harmlessly along a country road. Two of the victims of lynching mobs were white men. One colored woman was lynched in Pickens, Miss.

Two main causes brought about the decline in lynching in 1923. First was the agitation on the floor of Congress and throughout the country for a Federal anti-lynching bill, the measure introduced by Mr. Dyer passing the last House of Representatives by a vote of 230 to 119. The second main cause was the northward migration of Negroes by the hundreds of thousands. This has borne in on the South that lynching will have to be stopped if the best labor the South can get for its plantations and industries is to be retained. Prospects for the enactment of the Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill in the present Congress are excellent, in the light of President Coolidge's anti-lynching pronouncement in his message to Congress. It is to be hoped that in a very few years the crime of lynching will have been completely wiped out in America.

JAMES WELDON JOHNSON,
Secretary National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.
New York, December 24, 1923.

ASHEVILLE, N. C., Citizen

DEC 22 1923

LYNCHINGS IN AMERICA SHOW HEAVY DECLINE

NEW YORK, Dec. 21.—Lynchings in the United States during 1923 numbered 26 against 61, in 1922, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People announced today. The decrease was laid to agitation for a Federal anti-lynching law and the northward migration of negroes.

Mississippi and Florida were reported to lead with five lynchings each. Georgia was listed with four, Oklahoma three, and Arkansas, Alabama and Texas two each, Louisiana, Missouri and Virginia each had one.

GALVESTON, TEXAS NEWS
DECEMBER 29, 1923

FEWER LYNCHINGS.

Fewer lynchings occurred in the United States during the year about to close than any year since 1902. Without having the complete record at hand, it is reasonably safe to say that the comparison may be extended back for at least half a century. Mob victims for 1923 so far number 26. Of course it is possible, but not probable, that the list may be augmented during the next three days. Last year there were 61 lynchings. Beginning with 102 in 1903, the number had never before this year fallen below 38, that being the total for 1916. As far back as authoritative records go, the year 1892, when 208 lynchings occurred, holds the black mark for savagery.

It would be cause for grave discouragement if the particular type of crime which so frequently holds America up to derision in the eyes of foreign nations showed no signs of being checked. But a sudden drop of more than 100 per cent is indicative of something more significant than a passing coincidence. Mob violence has no open defenders. Those who sometimes essay the role of apologists, however, usually explain its prevalence on the score of laxity in the legal administration of justice. If the time ever comes, they say, when the courts may be depended on to mete out summary justice to perpetrators of atrocious crimes, mob use of the noose and the stake will fall into obsolescence. The sophistry of that argument is apparent when one considers that lynch law is often administered on nothing more than suspicion of guilt, and that the victim is denied all opportunity to establish his innocense. Numerous cases are on record in which it developed after the lynching that the wrong man was dealt with. And again, is it to be expected that a community permeated with the spirit of mob violence should provide a wholesome atmosphere for the development of dependable courts?

There is nothing to show that the criminal courts moved with greater speed and infallibility during 1923 than during any of the preceding years. Let us hope that it was so. But the decline in lynchings is in itself evidence of a growing respect for the law. When people are universally disposed to leave the administration of justice to the courts, we may likewise trust them to bring about any reforms of which the courts may stand in need.

It is not too much to hope that the favorable record for 1923 presages the time when lynching will be totally relegated to the violent past, along with frontier warfare.

BIRMINGHAM, ALA.
Herald
DEC 29

LYNCHINGS FOR YEAR SHOW BIG DECREASE

Mississippi and Florida Lead, While Alabama and Texas Two

NEW YORK, Dec. 21.—Lynchings in the United States during 1923 numbered 26 against 61 in 1922, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People announced today. The decrease was laid to agitation for a federal anti-lynching law and the northward migration of negroes.

Mississippi and Florida were reported to lead with five lynchings each. Georgia was listed with four, Oklahoma three, and Arkansas, Alabama and Texas two each. Louisiana, Missouri and Virginia each had one.

BRUNSWICK GA., News

JAN 10 1924

In the Southern States, where the bulk of the negro population is congested and where crimes infuriating the populace are more frequent than elsewhere, the lynching records are always highest. It is the more encouraging, therefore, to learn that in this section in 1923 only 26 persons were done to death by mobs as compared with 61 in 1922, and that the South's lynching record for 1923 is the lowest in forty-five years allowing for fluctuations there has been a gradual decrease throughout the generation past, either because of a decrease in exciting crimes or better law enforcement.

Jackson, Mich. Citizen-Patriot
Friday, Dec. 28, 1923

A Better Record.

Two years ago a Georgia committee of women made an appeal to the public against lynching. In the South that brutality has been defended on the ground that it is necessary for the protection of women. But the members of the committee submitted that there is "no crime more dangerous than that which strikes at the root of, and undermines, constituted authority; substitutes mob violence and masked irresponsibility for established justice, and deprives society of a sense of protection against barbarism."

Whether or no the appeal of the women was a moving cause, the record of lynchings for the year 1923 marks a notable improvement. The year showed by far the smallest number of punishments outside the law since 1889. In the whole United States but twenty-six persons were lynched, as compared with the peak record of 1892, when 208 persons met death at the hands of mobs. In many years the number was more than a hundred, and with the exception of the year drawing to a close it was not under fifty until 1917, when there were 38. In 1918 there were 64; in 1919, 83; in 1920, 61; in 1921, 64, and in 1922, 61.

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People suggests that the good record of the past year is a result of the northward migration of negroes. It is more likely that the truth which the Southern women preached is sinking in. Lynching is lawlessness, and lawlessness breeds lawlessness. Southern leaders have long preached that, and their words are having an effect.

Lynchings—1923
Rape;—Alleged Attacks by Negroes.

1372 Alabama.

MISTRIAL DECLARED IN CASE OF NEGRO WILL LEWIS OF SELMA, CHARGED WITH ATTEMPTED CRIME AGAINST WOMAN

Montgomery Advertiser 1-23-23

Jury Unable to Agree After Deliberation of Four Hours; Perfect Order Maintained in Central City While Trial Was Going On

NEGRO ARRIVES HERE.

State law enforcement officers brought Will Lewis, negro, to Montgomery from Selma Monday night after a mistrial had been declared in the case in which he is charged with attempted criminal assault. The negro will be transferred to Birmingham for safe keeping, it was understood. It was expected he would be carried to Birmingham on an early morning train Tuesday.

Lewis was brought to Montgomery in an automobile by L. L. Phillips, chief of the state law enforcement department, and S. E. Tranum and A. W. Crow, law enforcement officers. He was placed in a cell at police headquarters temporarily, following the arrival here at 11:30 o'clock.

(Special to The Advertiser)

SELMA, ALA., Jan. 22.—Mistrial resulted in the case of Will Lewis, Selma negro, charged with attempted criminal assault on a young white woman, who was placed on trial in the circuit court today. The case went to the jury at 4:30 o'clock this afternoon and the jury was discharged at 8:30 o'clock, it being evident that no verdict could be agreed on.

It is understood that the negro was spirited away right after the case was declared a mistrial, being taken to Montgomery in a motor car by members of the state law enforcement squad, headed by Chief L. L. Phillips.

The trial was conducted with the utmost order and no excitement was manifested in the city.

The state rested at 1 o'clock in the examination of witnesses in the trial of Will Lewis, negro, charged with criminal assault on a young white girl in the early morning hours of December 27 at the young woman's home in the northern part of the city. The young woman, her mother, and Deputy Sheriff Gaddy were the only witnesses questioned by the state. The negro was identified by the young woman as being the man who entered her room and committed the assault, stating that she recognized him as he was making his exit through the window. The negro was arrested by Deputy Sheriff Gaddy later that morning as he was oiling machinery in a room of the Selma Manufacturing Company, where he was employed.

Lewis was hustled out of town to Montgomery immediately after the arrest was made. He was brought to Selma by a squad of law enforcement officers, headed by Chief L. L. Phillips, Sunday night and held at the county jail.

Judge Hobbs appointed A. D. Pitts, Hugh Mallory and Harry Gamble as special counsel to look after Lewis' interests. District Attorney James and H. F. Reese have charge of the prosecution. A special venire of 50 men were sworn in to serve the court this week, in addition to the regular ventire of fifty.

On Sunday Col. George A. Glenn, assistant adjutant general of Alabama, came over and had a conference with several prominent citizens, when it was decided to notify the national guard to hold themselves in readiness in case any trouble of any kind should arise in Selma.

The case was called Monday morning, and William Lewis, charged with attempted criminal assault upon a young white girl, was arraigned in court. He plead not guilty.

HERE EARLY MONDAY.

Will Lewis, negro, charged with an attempted assault of a young white woman at Selma, spent a short while at the police station in Montgomery early Monday, en route to Selma for arraignment.

Fears of violence resulted in the removal of Lewis from Selma after his apprehension. He was ladged in the Montgomery county jail at that time, but recently was transferred to Mobile for safe-keeping. A general attitude of reticence was maintained by the officers as to the whereabouts of Lewis.

Inquiries at the county jail in Montgomery after the negro was transferred from here met with the refusal of the authorities to make public the whereabouts of Lewis. It was rumored that he had been returned to Selma, but it was learned Monday that he was brought here from Mobile on the way to Dallas county for trial.

Particulars as to the plans for the beginning of the case were announced none too freely in Selma. Lewis, who was locked up at police headquarters in Montgomery at 4:10 o'clock Monday morning, was removed later in the day by a state law enforcement officer.

There has never been an explanation of why the negro was taken from Montgomery to Mobile, or even as much as an official admission that he had been removed to Mobile. It was generally understood, however, despite official silence, that the prisoner had been moved from Montgomery a short while ago. Newspaper men who sought to confirm the report from authoritative sources were confronted by a non-committal attitude among attaches at the county jail.

NEGRO WILL HANG FOR ATTACK MADE ON WHITE WOMEN

Montgomery Advertiser 1-23-23

Birmingham, Ala., April 30.—Willie Golson, negro, was sentenced to be hanged following conviction early tonight on the charge of having attacked two Birmingham white women. The jury reached a verdict after an hour and fifteen minutes' deliberation.

BUTLER NEGRO HELD ON SERIOUS CHARGE

Charlie Clark Said to Have Attempted to Get in Bed With Farmer's Daughter

GREENVILLE, ALA., June 9—Special to The Advertiser—Charlie Clark, a young negro man, was lodged in the Butler county jail Friday night after a hot pursuit by Sheriff Augustus Murphy and members of his force and other citizens, with an ugly charge against him. The negro was caught by Deputy Sheriff Bill Murphy.

Montgomery Advertiser 6-10-23

The negro entered the room of a daughter of a well known white farmer of South Butler, and, according to reports, was in the act of getting on the bed where the young girl was sleeping when she awoke and aroused the others in the house who were sleeping at that time.

The negro ran, making his exit through a side door.

The negro made an entrance into the room through a window and before entering he took off his shoes and left them on the porch and it was these which led to his capture.

In discussing the capture of the negro Sheriff Murphy stated that the negro was familiar with the house for he had worked on the farm for about three years.

FOURTH CONVICTION IN GAFFORD MURDER

Negro Jake Crenshaw Again Faces Jury in Butler County

Montgomery Advertiser 6-27-23

Advertiser Bureau
Greenville, Ala.
By Porter Martin.

The fourth trial of Jake Crenshaw, the negro charged with the brutal murder of Mrs. Foster Gafford at her home near Greenville two years ago, was opened in the Butler county circuit court here Monday.

The case has attracted great interest in this section of the state, and is one of the most talked of cases in this section of Alabama for a number of years.

Murdered at Home.

Mrs. Foster Gafford was left at her home alone one Sunday afternoon in May, 1921, by her husband, Foster Gafford, and two of his stepdaughters. Upon their return later in the afternoon, the wife and mother was found lying in a pool of blood with her head almost beaten into a pulp, and her body ripped open from a point betwen her lower limbs ranging upward to about the center of her abdomen.

Buel Powell, a negro man who resided in the Gafford neighborhood, was arrested charged with the killing, on the ground that he had a difficulty with the deceased woman, who is said to have had him arrested. Powell was kept in the Montgomery county jail for several weeks, but was later released, after Jake Crenshaw, the defendant in the trial, was arrested in a suburb of Birmingham by officers of Jefferson county.

Given Three Trials.

Crenshaw has been given three trials, the decisions of hanging in the first two were reversed by the supreme court, while the last trial, held six months ago, resulted in a mistrial. So stirred up were the people of the county at the first trial, which was given at a special term of court, as a precautionary step, the negro was brought to Greenville under a heavy guard and officers guarded him with Winchester rifles throughout the trial. Every person entering the court room was searched by officers.

Interest in the present trial seems to have waned considerably, for the court room today was not half filled with spectators.

The negro is being kept in the Butler county jail while the court is not in session.

Jury is Completed.

From a venire of 50 special jurors and 50 regular jurors, the 12 members of the trial jury of Crenshaw were drawn late this afternoon. The 12 men who compose the jury are all nonresidents of Greenville and are farmers and lumber mill men.

The delay in the impanelling of the jury was occasioned by reason of the fact that the defense asked the trial judge, Judge A. E. Gamble, to relieve them from making a showing of the evidence of several witnesses who were to testify in the case, but had not been brought to court. The state contended that the showings should be made and this required some time and the court recessed for this period.

The defense through C. P. Beddow requested the court to allow the jury to make a trip to the scene of the killing in order that the jurors could get a correct lay of the land and surroundings in their minds. To this request, Solicitor Poole objected, but the court granted the request and the twelve men, accompanied by the trial judge, court stenographer, members of the sheriff's force and the five attorneys in the case, made the trip, returning in the early evening.

Testimony Opens Today.

The first witness in the case will be called at opening of the court tomorrow morning.

Sensation is Sprung.

A sensation was caused during the time that Judge Gamble was making the voir-dire examination of the venire of 50 special and 50 regular jurors who were summoned from which to draw the jury.

John Grant, one of the venire, a brother of Mrs. Foster Gafford, was asked the question if he was any blood relation to the murdered woman. He answered in the affirmative, but the counsel of the defense waived the right of exemption, and the name of Mr. Grant remained on the panel. It was later struck by the counsel of the state.

NEGRO CONFESSES TO ASSAULT CRIME

Willie Golson Admits Guilt and is Baptised by Preacher in Jail in Bath Tub

The Montgomery Advertiser 6-7-23

BIRMINGHAM, ALA., June 6.—Special to The Advertiser.—Willie Golson, convicted several weeks ago in the circuit court for criminally assaulting a white woman of Birmingham, Wednesday morning confessed his guilt to four negro preachers and received the consideration of his race when he was baptized in a bath tub in the county jail.

Attended by newspaper men, attaches of the sheriff's office and the preachers, Golson simply confessed to having assaulted the Birmingham woman, the offense for which he will pay the death penalty Friday morning. The negro would not say whether he was guilty of other similar assaults here or elsewhere.

"I'se been seeing the gallows for a long time," the condemned negro told the gathering shortly before the ritual. "I knows when I fall through, a white angel will come and take me away."

Golson was arrested in April, while in the act of entering a house in Norwood. Two nights previously, he assaulted the woman after he had entered her house. After his arrest he told local police he had committed the many assaults on white women in Knoxville, two years ago. This, however, was later repudiated by Golson, who declared police had third degreed the confession of crimes he had not committed.

BIRMINGHAM NEGRO ATTACKS WHITE WOMAN, ROBS ESCORT

Police Strength Exerted to Find Armed Desperado of Norwood.

BIRMINGHAM, ALA., June 18.—Practically the entire police strength of Birmingham was today directed in a search for a negro man who is charged with attacking a North Side woman at a point known as Norwood last night while he held her male escort at bay with a pistol. The couple were on route to a street car, the man reported to police. He said he was robbed of $200 and a watch and that the negro said to him: "I've a great mind to kill you for not having more than that." The woman's escort was able to give only a partial description of the negro.

NEGRO FARM HAND RUNS AMUCK; FOUR PERSONS WOUNDED

Insult to Employer's Wife Alleged; Neighbor Answering Her Screams is First Victim; Posse Searches

HUNTSVILLE, ALA., June 25—Special to The Advertiser.—Risty Ford, a negro farm hand ran amuck with pistol and shot gun in the Sulphur Springs precinct in a remote section of Madison county late today, shot four men, three seriously and one slightly, and is being hunted tonight by a posse of men and deputies who are determined to kill or capture him.

Wounded victims of Ford's guns are:

Carrol Quick, shot through the body.

S. Roberts Jacks, shot through leg.

Austin Lasseter, shot through the body.

Alvi Spelce, slightly wounded in arm.

The cause of the trouble was an alleged insult by the negro to the wife of his employer. She screamed and a neighbor ran to her assistance.

He saw Lasseter and Ford shot him down as he came up. The negro then ran and met Alvi Spelce, whom he shot saying he had been waiting for someone to start trouble so he could kill some white men.

As he fled he encountered Quick and Jacks whom he shot, then disappeared into the nearby woods.

Negro Arrested on Charge of Assault

Henry Foster, negro, employed as a night watchman by a local concern was arrested at about 2 o'clock Tuesday night by Deputy Sheriff J. F. Tucker and Police Sergeant Ralph King, on a serious charge. It is alleged that he attacked and dragged into a nearby basement, a negro woman who was passing along the street. The woman managed to tear herself loose from his clutches however and rushing to the county jail reported the attack to the authorities.

A search warrant was made for Foster by Deputy Sheriff Tucker and Sergeant King, who within a short time located him at his home and placed him under arrest. The woman, it is stated, was not seriously injured.

MAGWOOD CHARGED WITH THE RAPE OF FIVE YEAR OLD GIRL

OFFICERS TAKE HIM FROM HIS PULPIT IN ENSLEY SUNDAY AND HE IS PLACED BEHIND THE BARS.

Rev. J. H. Magwood, Moderator of the Progressive Baptist Association pastor of the Lily Grove Baptist Church, Ensley, Ala., is in the Jefferson County jail charged with the rape of little Julia Mae Baldwin, five years old, living at 2215 Saventeenth Avenue, Ensley.

According to reports the attack happened early Sunday morning when the child was missed from the home of her mother, Mrs. Baldwin, who is a neighbor of Rev. Magwood's and was found crying running between the two houses trying to make it to her mother. Julia Mae makes the statement that the Reverend called her to his room, gave her some pennies and ribbon, laid her across the bed and attempted the brutal act. When the child was found by her mother she was in an ugly shape and was hurried to a physician, who gave the child immediate attention. The doctor who waited on the child is Dr. C. D. Mason, a reputable white physician of this city.

Quite a sensation has been created over the matter and Rev. Magwood was arrested by officers while in his pulpit Sunday morning.

The feeling is running high throughout the Ensley district over the attack and it is believed that the safest place for the present for the Reverend is in the Jefferson County jail. And from reports general it won't be safe for him in this State if by chance a bond is secured. This is reported as the most foul crime of any within the State by any one. If reports are correct, the act is below the level of the brute and it is believed that the courts will act and punish according to the crime committed, if the charges are proven true.

SHERIFF GUARDS DALLAS PRISONERS

Negroes Held for Assault on Mrs. Callen Not Yet Identified by Dying Woman

SELMA, ALA., October 31.—Special by Leased Wire to The Advertiser.—Leon Stewart and James Washington, the two local negroes arrested in connection with the murderous assault on Mrs. Monroe Callen Monday, at her home near Selma, have not yet been identified. They will not be brought before Mrs. Callen until her condition is improved. At the Selma hospital where she is under treatment it was reported tonight that she is over the shock of the assault and recovering from her injuries.

Because of an undercurrent against the negro suspects, although there has been no sign of mob violence, Sheriff Percy Dawson is on duty personally at the Dallas county jail tonight with an additional force of deputies. It was reported at one time tonight that the two negroes had been carried to jail in Montgomery, but the sheriff denied the necessity for this transfer and states that the prisoners will be given full protection in the Dallas jail.

Arizona.

1373

Lynchings—1923.

Rape; Alleged Attacks by Negroes.

GIRL IS ATTACKED AND ESCORT SLAIN

Miami, Ariz., December 26.—Ted Grosh, University of Arizona athlete, was shot to death and his companion, Miss Maxine McNelly, of Globe, Ariz., is in a Globe hospital in serious condition as the result of an attack by a negro here early today.

A passing motorist found Grosh's body in his car and Miss McNelly, wounded and helpless, lying in the road. She is expected to recover.

Lynchings—1923
Rape—Alleged Attacks by Negroes.

Arkansas.

1374

NEGRO ATTACKS COUPLE

Young Man Seriously Stabbed Woman Escapes Assailant

(Associated Press)

LITTLE ROCK, ARK., March 13.—Sidney Ford 23, railroad freight clerk, is in a hospital here tonight with serious knife wounds in arms and body while police are searching for the negro who the injured man declares stabbed him and then attempted an attack upon his young woman companion while they were sitting in an automobile on a country road near here today.

The woman is reported to have screamed and broken away from the attacker as she was being dragged toward a wood.

Ford suffered great loss of blood and his condition is regarded as serious.

ASSAULT CHARGE BY NEGRO BELIEVED FRAMEUP

Woman And Escort In "Scrap" And Accuse Negro To Conceal Selves

The Baltimore Sun

Little Rock, Ark., March 21.—Although depcty sheriffs arested 10 Negroes last Thursday in conenction with the atack on a young woman on the Malbelvale pike Tuesday night and the serious slashing of her escort, Sidney Ford, the young woman whose name is withheld, was unable to identify any of the Negroes taken into custody. Six of them were releseased, while the other four were held in the county jail, but probably will be released in a day or so, Sheriff Adkins said.

Sheriff Adkins said last Thursday night that he had exhausted every clue given him. He said that after the girl failed to recognize her assailant among those arrested the case appeared to be hopeless. He as much as intimated the probability of a fight between the couple and for fear that her companion would die the best thing to do was to trump up some sort of a story about being attacked by Negro highwaymen.

When a report from the hospital reached the young lady that Ford would recover it is said that she told a slightly different story. According to Sheriff Adkins she appeared to be more collected and gave a more complete description of the Negro even saying that he had two upper teeth missing. Her story is, according to officers, full of small details and this makes the officers suspect that it is largely one of imagination. more coshrdlu cmfwyp cmfwyp mbb Sheriff Adkins said that he would exhaust every clue given him.

NEGRO STABS MAN AND ASSAULTS GIRL

LITTLE ROCK ARK. GAZETTE
MARCH 14, 1923

Little Rock Couple Are Victims of Brutal Attack on Mabelvale Pike.

YOUTH SERIOUSLY HURT

Officers Say They Are Puzzled by Discrepancies in Stories of Principals in Affair.

Sidney H. Ford, aged 23 and a young white woman of this city, were victims of a revoltingly brutal assault committed by a negro on a lonely road leading off the Mabelvale pike, about a half mile south of the Four-Mile Grocery store, yesterday afternoon, according to a report they made to Sheriff Homer M. Adkins.

According to their story, the negro suddenly appeared beside their halted automobile, attacked, severely wounded and disabled Ford, with a knife, and led the young woman some 200 yards into a sparse growth of timber where he assaulted her.

A very definite description of the negro was given by the young woman, and from about 2:30 p. m. until dark, posses of sheriff's officers, members of the Little Rock Police Department, and white residents of the neighborhood, heavily armed and using blood hounds, scoured the rough country for a radius of some five or six miles and "shook down" all the negro cabins between the Mabelvale and Arch street pikes.

One posse, headed by Chief Deputy Sheriff Blake Williams, Deputy Sheriff Stewart and Police Lieutenant Thompson, finally located and brought in a young negro who corresponded so closely to the girls' description that he had been the chief suspect from the start, only to have her say positively that he was not her assailant.

Man Seriously Stabbed.

Ford, who lives at 4901 North Lookout avenue and is a freight clerk employed by the Missouri Pacific, was taken to the Baptist hospital in a Healy & Roth ambulance. He had deep scalp wounds on the back and top of the head, a cut on the left side of the face, and a dangerous cut on the left side of the neck which had barely missed the jugular vein. He also had a deep cut on the inside of the right hand and thumb. He was much weakened by loss of blood, but his condition last night was reported as fair.

The first report of the affair was made at about 2:30 yesterday afternoon, when the young man, wounded, and bleeding, drove up in his Ford touring car to the Brown-Pearson feed store at the junction of the Mabelvale and Nineteenth street pikes. Harvey Shofner, manager of the store immediately telephoned Sheriff Adkins, and then gave the alarm in the neighborhood.

Posse in Pursuit.

In a brief period nearby residents had armed and started down the Mabelvale pike. Despite his wounds, young Ford insisted on accompanying them, driving his own car. Sheriff Adkins arrived with deputies within 15 minutes of the receipt of the alarm, telephoned in for a Healy & Roth ambulance to come to the feed store, and sent his own deputies on down the pike to join the citizens' posse.

The ambulance also made the run out to the store in 15 minutes, and in the meantime the young woman, having walked from the woods to the Mabelvale pike and stopped a passing automobile, also had reached the store. She wore only shoes, stockings, underclothing and a medium length woman's coat. She insisted on going with the ambulance to pick up Ford.

Some distance down the pike, but before reaching the Fourche creek bridge, Ford was met driving back toward the city was transferred to the ambulance. Accompanied by the young woman, he was driven to the Baptist hospital, while a Gazette reporter brought the touring car to town.

Gives but Few Details.

The young man was in such a weakened condition that the doctors refused to allow police or reporters to talk much with him. His story of the attack, as given to the doctors, was comparatively bare of details. He and the girl, he said, had been out driving, and their car had stalled in a mud hole in the Fourche bottom about a quarter mile east of the Mabelvale pike. They were sitting there wondering what to do, he said, when a "big black nigger" suddenly appeared, "knocked him in the head," and began hacking at him with a knife, until he lost consciousness. When he came to, he said, he realized what had happened, managed to start the car, and drove in to the feed store for rescuers for his companion.

The young woman's story was much more circumstantial, and contained several elements at conflict with Ford's account, and so unusual in connection with such a case that they puzzled the officers. After going with Ford to the hospital in the ambulance, she returned to the scene with Deputies Williams and Stewart, and led them over the ground as she told her story.

Girl Gives Details.

She pointed out the spot where the touring car had been halted and where tire marks were visible, and said that without warning a negro had appeared beside the car and begun cutting at Ford's head, quickly rendering him unconscious.

Then, she continued, the negro tore off her dress, tossing it into the back of the car, and began dragging her back into the timber toward a slue. Hearing a noise, she said, he stopped and saw that Ford had recovered consciousness, got out of the car and followed for some 50 yards. This statement was corroborated by a trail of thick splatters and occasional pools of blood on the ground, leading into the woods from the spot where the car had been.

She said the negro ordered Ford to go back to the car on penalty of death and that she also had called to Ford not to try to help her, because she knew that in his weakened condition he could not defend himself and that he would be killed.

She led the officers to a spot about 50 yards farther on beside the slue and pointed it out as the place where the negro had overcome what resistance she dared and was able to make. Marks on the soft ground at the spot corroborated this statement.

Second Assault Threatened.

Then followed the most puzzling part of her statement. She said the negro led her back to the car, telling her he was going to let her go, but that as he reached the vehicle he attacked Ford for a second time with his knife and declared his intention of repeating his attack on her. Dragging her with him, she said, he returned on his trail, but this time led her much farther along the rough road into the timber. Reaching a point some 200 yards from the indicated position of the automobile, she said she and her assailant had reached that spot when they heard the engine of the car start, and that the negro thereupon seemed to "lose his nerve," because, she supposed, he realized the young white man was going for help.

At any rate, she said, he told her she could go, and himself started into the woods southeastward, while she returned to the pike and eventually reached the store.

Negro Is Described.

The young woman gave a very definite description of her assailant as a young, short, stocky negro, black, squint-eyed and wearing a cap and a gray sweater.

A bloodhound, put to work at the point she had last indicated, picked up a trail and made off southeastward, leading a posse headed by Deputy Sheriff Haynie. After going about two miles, however, the dog lost the trail and the posse had to quit. Another posse headed by Sheriff Adkins had no better luck.

The posse headed by Deputies Williams and Stewart, and Lieutenant Thompson, with Motorcycle Policeman Haynie, made the longest hike. The band contained several white residents of the neighborhood who believed they knew the negro described by the young woman, and set out with the purpose of locating him and bringing him before her for identification. In the pursuit, this posse covered a line of about seven miles leading through Gum Springs and the Joe Brown settlement almost to the Arch street pike. A score of scattered negro cabins were searched until finally the wanted negro was encountered on a woods road and led back to Gum Springs, where the young woman had been left in a small white settlement near the sawmill.

She declared positively that this negro was not the one, and he was allowed to go to his home.

With the failure of this identification, the officers were left with practically no definite clues to work on.

As she accompanied the officers on their search, the young woman's face was seen to be slightly scratched, and one of her hands seemed to be cut slightly. There was a scattering of blood spots on the front of her light coat and the skirt of her one-piece dress, which she had recovered from the rear of Ford's car when the ambulance met it on the Mabelvale pike, and had put on in the ambulance during the trip to the hospital.

NEGRO EXODUS SERIOUS.

Deputies Disperse Crowd of 3,000 as Rope Around Man's Neck.

EL DORADO, Ark., May 1.—Deputy sheriffs late today dispersed a mob of perhaps 3,000 persons who had stormed the Union county jail and carried off a negro prisoner, to rescue the negro, around whose neck a rope had already been placed, and brought him to the El Dorado jail where tonight, where he is being guarded.

The negro, Sherman Tate, was charged with attempting an attack upon a young white girl at Smackover, near here. Officers say the girl ran and screamed when the man approached the home in which she was alone at the time. Tate was arrested on the girl's complaint and placed in the Smackover jail. A mob quickly formed, broke down the dors and carried the prisoner to the outskirts of the town.

There was no indication of disturbance here tonight.

ARKANSAS WOMAN DIES FROM NEGRO'S ATTACK

Black Suspect Rushed to Fort Smith Jail.

VICTIM SLASHED, SHOT

Mrs. Bob Latimer, 25, of Van Buren Succumbs Few Hours Later, But Gives Description of Assailant. Negro Claims Alibi.

FORT SMITH, Ark., Dec. 28.—Mrs. Bob Latimer, 25, of Catcher settlement, five miles southeast of VanBuren, is dead, following an attack by a negro and Will Bettis, a negro living near the Latimer home, is in the Sebatian County jail here, charged with the crime, officers having arrested Bettis late this afternoon.

Mrs. Latimer was found unconscious at her home early Friday afternoon by a neighbor who went to call upon her. She was badly bruised about the

arms and body and had been shot in the back with number birdshot from a shotgun and had been slashed about the head.

A physician was called and administered medical aid, but efforts to save her failed, death coming shortly before 6 o'clock. She regained consciousness, however, and gave a description of the negro, it was said.

Bettis, who was arrested by Sheriff A. D. Maxey of VanBuren and Deputy Sheriff W. S. Bushmear of Kibler, denies the charge and claims that he was picking cotton in a field near his home throughout the day.

Mrs. Latimer's husband was away from home, spending a few days in Oklahoma, it was said. They have no children.

Bettis was brought to the Sebastian County jail here by Sheriff Maxey early tonight to offset chances for mob violence, it was announced.

Lynchings - 1923

Georgia

Rape—Alleged Attacks by Negroes.

1375

GEORGIANS SAVE PIECES OF ROPE AS SOUVENIR GIFTS

Gainesville, Ga., March 16.—Caught in the fatal net of suspicion of an attack on a young white woman, "Bus" Strickland, 18-year-old youth, went to his death here in the county jail.

White people from all parts of Georgia were here to witness the hanging.

No evidence was ever brought forward to prove that Strickland was guilty, even in point of circumstance.

After the hanging the white people present cut off pieces of the rope with which he was hanged to keep as souvenirs.

Strickland's family was forced to leave the town. They moved to Atlanta.

DEPUTIES HUNT NEGRO FOR ALLEGED ATTACK

Macon, Ga., May 23.—Deputies here Wednesday were searching for Jim Lundy, a negro, who is alleged to have attacked a [illegible] daughter of a Monroe county farmer above Rolingbroke. After the attack the negro is said to have left the farmer's home and [illegible] Macon.

Monroe county officers with the aid of a number of Monroe county men hunted the negro nearly all of last night but could find no trace of him. A small brother of the girl accosted the negro, heard the sister's screams and secured a shotgun. He fired several shots at the negro, but the intruder escaped.

MACON POSSES HUNT WOMAN'S ASSAILANT

Macon, Ga., July 4.—(Special.)—Posses are hunting a negro who late Wednesday attacked one of the most prominent white women of Wellston, Houston county.

The woman, a widow, was found unconscious tonight in her home by her son.

She had returned home by train and was attacked by the negro, who was said to be hiding on the inside of the house.

Sheriff T. S. Chapman and a number of deputies from Houston county are in pursuit. Track dogs have been obtained from Crawford county.

The woman is said to be still unconscious.

ATTACKER OF WOMAN ESCAPES

WELLSTON, Ga., July 5.—The hunt for a negro who late yesterday attacked a widow in her home here, was abandoned tonight. Dogs followed the trail to a stream. Evidently the negro waded the stream for some distance, for the dogs were unable to pick up the scent again. The victim of the assault was unable to give the officers a description of the negro.

ARREST NEGRO SUSPECT

But He Proves He Was Five Miles Away When Crime of Assault.

PERRY, GA., June 19.—The first arrest in connection with an assault upon a prominent white woman of Wellston on last Wednesday was made by Sheriff T. S. Chapman at noon today.

A negro giving the name of Arthur Pell was taken into custody. He showed however, that he was at Elberta, five miles from the scene of the crime at sundown, the time of the assault. Pell was released at 5 o'clock this afternoon.

Feeling is running high around Wellston.

Macon detectives are working with Houston county authorities on the case.

SEEK WOMAN'S ASSAILANT

Burning of Negro Church Follows Assault at Her Home

SAVANNAH, GA., June 19.—The burning of a negro church by unidentified persons last night marked the hunt for the assailant of a [illegible] married woman who was attacked at her home in this city. Posses led by officers continued to comb [illegible] and surrounding country.

Scores of arrests are being made by the county police. The victim gave a full description of the negro. James Andrews, an aged negro who lives nearby, also gave an accurate description of the man which tallies with the one given the police by the woman.

NEGRO ASSAILANT OF 14-YEAR-OLD GIRL APPREHENDED

Macon, Ga., July 15, (Special).—Jim Lundy, a negro wanted in Monroe county for an alleged criminal assault on a 14-year-old white girl, has been located in Cleveland, Ga., largely through the efforts of Bibb county deputy sheriffs.

Sheriff Carey Bittick, of Monroe county, has gone to White county for the negro, and he will be returned to this section of the state, although he probably will not be taken to Forsyth.

The alleged assault took place four weeks ago. A posse immediately formed to search for the negro, who made his escape.

Through relatives and a tailoring shop in Macon, where the negro had placed an order for a suit of clothes, it was learned he had fled to north Georgia. He was finally traced to Cleveland, Ga., and his arrest was effected.

BIG MAN HUNT FIZZLED OUT

A few weeks ago with glaring headlines, the two local dailies, the papers in this and other states gave a vivid account of the hunt for "burly black Negro," accused of assaulting a white woman near Pooler, a village ten miles from Savannah. Several suspects were arrested and the humble homes of the innocent and unoffensive members of our race were rudely entered and searched. The woods for many miles radius to Pooler were combed by hundreds of white men eager for the blood of the imagined Negro assailant of the white woman. For several days this man hunt continued and the daily papers followed with the usual write ups. Finally the matter dropped, but it was left to the free lance, known as the Hawkeye, to explain the reason why the man hunt was not continued. This is a sample of many other cases, except that in some of the others, innocent blood was shed.

Savannah Tribune

The Hawkeye's article follows:

"If your neck was going to be broken provided you failed to get a County policeman or others engaged in the recent man hunt at Pooler to swear they believed Mrs. Towles was struck by a negro, you had better fall on your knees and begin to make arrangement for your residence in another world.

Savannah, Ga.

"The County officers and citizens of two counties scoured the woods and swamps with several packs of blood hounds for several days to catch the 'big burly negro' who struck Mrs. Towles.

8-30-23

"Every time the blood hounds set out they trailed back to the Towles home.

"This caused the officers and citizens to begin to scratch their heads and begin to wonder.

"Every time the blood hounds would trail back and set their eyes on one of the boys, a pain would play hide and seek down Chief Chapman's spinal column.

"For several days, they tore up the woods and swamps in Chatham and Effingham counties.

"There is not an old section within a radius of eighteen miles that will ever hatch an egg.

"The possum crop in the Pooler vicinity is said to be distressingly demoralized.

"Seventeen rattlesnakes, thirty six water moccasins, forty three racoons, eleven screech owls, fourteen pole cats and three moonshine stills fell captive to the searching party, but they didn't find the 'guilty nigger'

"Every time the hounds would trail off, they would trail right back and look at the boys.

"This led the searching party to believe:

" 'The nigger was in the wood pile,' close around home.

"There had been a family row at the Towels home the night of the attack."

Negro Assailant Captured Of White Woman

Constitution

Hunted in Swamp

9-28-23

Savannah, Ga., September 27.—County police are tracking an unidentified negro throughout surrounding swamps, following an attempted assault upon a white woman here shortly before noon today. The attempted assault occured in a store, located three miles out on the Ogeechee road.

The near victim will be able to identify the negro, according to her statement to the county police who arrived shortly after the attack was made.

The woman describes the negro as being young, coal black, wearing grey pants, grey vest and a light striped shirt. He also wore a collar and tie.

The woman's husband was in the city attending business when the attack was made. He is now aiding in the search.

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Alleged Assailant Captured Of White Woman

Constitution

Reported Captured

10-1-23

Savannah, Ga., September 30.—(Special.)—It became known Sunday night that Chris Roberts, negro, was arrested Friday by county officers, and is being held as a suspect in the case of the attack upon the wife of a white roadhouse store-keeper on the Ogeechee road several days ago. Reports were given out Saturday that search was still being made.

It is said that other negroes have identified him as the man about the roadhouse about the time of the midday attack on the woman. A charge of assault with intent to murder has been entered against the man. Se-

secy was maintained to prevent possible excitement and in order for officers to obtain witnesses.

LEWIS TAKEN AWAY

Montgomery adv.

Selma Negro No Longer in County Jail Here

1-3-23

Will Lewis, the negro who was brought to the Montgomery county jail last week, following an alleged attempt by the negro to enter the room of a young white woman in Selma, was not in the prison here Tuesday, it was stated by officials there. There negro was brought here for safe-keeping, and it was not disclosed where he was lodged after being taken from the Montgomery county jail.

Information from Selma was to the effect that the grand jury had not yet returned an indictment against the negro.

Lynchings — 1923
Rape — Alleged Attacks by Negroes.

Indiana.

1376

NEGROES FLEE INDIANA TOWN AFTER WARNING

Blanford, Ind., January 20.—Negroes began leaving this mining town early this afternoon, following the warning issued by white residents to be out of the town by 7 o'clock tonight if they were unable to produce the unknown negro who criminally assaulted an 11-year-old girl Thursday evening.

All available automobiles, operating between Blanford and Clinton, Ind., were occupied by negro passengers and a number of trucks were filled with household goods. Early this evening no serious clashes had been reported.

The ultimatum, ordering the negroes out of town, was adopted at a mass meeting of white miners here this morning. More than 400 attended the meeting, it was said.

The little girl was taken to Terre Haute, where it was said, she was in a serious condition.

Between 15 and 18 negro families, including about 70 persons, live in this community, it was stated.

Negroes Driven Out of Town Following Crime

Associated Press Report.

BLANFORD, Ind., Jan. 20.—Negroes began leaving here early this afternoon, following a warning issued by white residents to be out of the town by 7 o'clock tonight if they were unable to produce the unknown negro who criminally assaulted Isabel Bales, 11-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Bales, last Thursday evening. No serious clashes had been yet reported.

INDIANA POSSE KILL ALLEGED ATTACKER

NEW ALBANY, Ind., July .—Edward Daugherty, 25 years old, colored, said by officers to have attacked Mrs. Mary Lane at Mitchell, Ind., Friday night, was killed near Bradford by a posse headed by the sheriff of Harrison county. Daugherty was hiding in a barn and when he refused to surrender he was shot dead.

GIRL'S STORY OF ATTACK BY COLORED MEN UNTRUE

CARTHAGE, Ind.—The alleged assult by two Negroes on a white girl near here yesterday was regarded today as a fabrication by authorities and members of a posse who searched all last night and until noon today for the alleged assailants. An examination of the girl showed that she had not been mistreated.

According to the local police and members of the sheriff's office, the girl told them that she had been assaulted in a barn and that the two Negroes, whom she said evidently were farm hands, disappeared in a corn field. Bloodhounds, brought here from Bedford, Ind., could find no trace of the Negroes.

Lynchings—1923.
Rapes: Alleged Attacks by Negroes.

Illinois.

1377

ILLINOIS TOWN WARS UPON IDLE NEGROES

Waukegan, Ill., November 16.—Every unemployed negro is being ordered out of here today by deputies led by Chief of Police Calline V. Dalz and Sheriff Edwin Amstrom, following an attack by an unidentified negro upon a white woman of Zion City.

—"Suppose Nobody Cared"—

Lynchings—1923 Indiana.

Rapes.—Alleged Attacks by Negroes.

1378

CHASE NEGROES INTO ILLINOIS

The Daily News.

Indiana Vigilance Body Drives Them Over State Line on Warning.

Special to The Chicago Daily News. 1-22-23

Danville, Ill., Jan. 22.—Fifteen negro families, the entire colored population of Blanford, a mining camp just across the Indiana state line twenty-five miles southeast of this city, have arrived here having been driven out of the town by a vigilance committee. They were ordered to leave unless they were able to produce an unidentified negro, who attacked 11-year-old Isabel Bales, a white girl.

There was no violence, but the negroes were told that if any of them were caught in Blanford after nightfall Sunday, the committee would not be responsible for their lives.

All of the refugees were compelled to go across the line into Illinois when those started for Terre Haute, Clinton and Montezuma were turned back.

Lynchings—1923.
Rapes;—Alleged Attacks by Negroes.

Louisiana.

1379

BEAUTY OF ORLEANS BOUND AND GAGGED

Negroes Cut Hair of Mrs. E. P. Muller and Slash Her With Scissors

NEW ORLEANS, LA., June 29.—The entire police department tonight was searching for two negroes who early tonight entered the home of Edwin P. Muller, bound and gagged Mrs. Muller, 26 years old, adjudged one of New Orleans' most beautiful women, threatened her life and slashed her with a pair of scissors while her husband lay ill on a sleeping porch unaware that she was in danger.

A description of the negroes was sent to all police stations and an effort to close every channel for their escape was made.

After binding her husband goodnight, Mrs. Muller went to her bedroom to retire. As she entered the negroes levelled pistols at her threatening to kill her instantly if she made an outcry. Binding and gagging her the negroes slashed both of Mrs. Muller's arms half a dozen times with the sharp point of a small pair of manicuring scissors and as she struggled to beat them off one of her assailants seized a pair of shears and hacked off her long hair at the neck.

Mrs. Muller's continued struggle evidently frightened the negroes and they fled.

Mrs. Muller made her way to the sleeping porch, some distance away, where she nearly collapsed. Her husband loosened the gag and towel that bound her hands and immediately notified the police.

In addition to the loss of her hair and cuts on her arms, she was bruised on the head and face.

Mrs. Muller was declared winner of several beauty contests here.

Her husband who has been ill for several years, was removed to his home today from a hospital. He formerly was manager of the New Orleans Press club and up to the time of his illness was actively engaged in newspaper work.

Lynchings—1923.
Rape—Alleged Attacks by Negroes.
Maryland.

1380

TESTIMONY OF GIRL FAILS TO CONVICT LADS

Three Set Free In Criminal Court On Charge of Criminal Assault

14th CASE THIS YEAR

Records Show That Violators of Womanhood Are Rarely Punished

Fourteen colored girls under 16 years of age have been outraged since January according to the records of the Criminal Court of Baltimore City. In only two cases have men tried for the offenses, received any punishment. Others were either found not guilty or paroled. In all of the cases, however, there was physical evidence to show that the girls had been mistreated by SOMEBODY.

Charged with criminally assaulting 14-year-old Willie Fauntleroy, three beardless youths faced trial in Part 1 of the Criminal Court Tuesday. 5/25/23

The boys, each of whom pleaded not guilty were: Louis Williams, [illegible] 1114 Parrish street; Edward Bush, 15, 1417 Riggs avenue; William Duppins, 19, 1016 Benson street.

In her story told on the witness stand Willie Fauntleroy alleged that on the night of April 15, she, her sister Irene and Idella Bradford, 726 School street, were returning from a visit to a relative when they met the boys. They followed behind, she said, until the girls reached an alley on Laurens street. Her companions ran but she was siezed, dragged several blocks into an alley and mistreated by all three of the boys one of whom bit her finger during the struggle.

In the meantime the sister ran home and reported the affair to Mrs. Fauntleroy the mother who notified the police and set out to hunt the girl. While they were searching for her she had managed to get home bruised and with her clothes torn and disheveled.

Duppins Admitted Being With Girls

The boys were arrested that night, and according to Lieut. Wilhelm of the Northwestern District, Duppins admitted that he and the boys had been with the girl. Idella Bradford and Irene Fauntleroy who escaped when the boys both corroborated this testimony. Examination by Dr. Waters, physician with the police department also bore out the story told by the girl.

Youth Saves Boys

In their defense the boys denied the charges of the girls, stating that they had merely ran upon the trio and that nothing wrong had happened. The whole affair was proclaimed a farce by the attorneys for the defense and the ages of the boys protected two of them from conviction of the crime of carnal knowledge. The verdict of the court was, not guilty.

The fact that there is always generally some doubt on the part of juries as to the statement of girls of this type that they were forced by violence to submit to mistreatment, and the fact that the law provides no protection for girls between the ages of 14 and 16 if the boy in the case is under 18 years of age, operates to save the defendants being found guilty.

That it is difficult to obtain conviction in the cases of violation of colored girls is shown by the fact that of fourteen presentments by the grand jury only three of the defendants were givenactual punishment by juries or courts. In all of these cases there was testimony to show that the girls had been violated, but the doubt as to the use of force led to verdicts of not guilty in each case.

12 Similar Cases

The following cases of rape, attempted rape and carnal knowledge were disposed of in the January term of court with the results indicated.

Andrew Bailey, versus Rennie Mack, not guilty.

George Johnson, versus Thelma Harris, guilty but released on parole.

William Wilson, versus Susie Atkins, not guilty.

John Other, versus Thelma Harris, nolle prossed.

Branch Bolling, versus Clara Morgan, guilty, 15 years in Penitentiary.

Edward Bethea, versus Beatrice Jackson, guilty but released on parole.

Rodger Berryman, vesus Helen Witts, not guilty.

Sylvester Simms, versus Mary McKim, stet on costs, and released.

Richard Press, versus Grace Smith, guilty but released on parole.

Robert Tarter, versus Grace Smith, guilty but released on parole.

Charles E. Dixon, versus Idella Parker, not guilty.

Joseph Hall versus Carrie Lewis, held sub curia.

ANOTHER 13-YR.-OLD ASSAULTED BY MAN

Elijah Foley Stands Mute When Little Child Tells Magistrate Story of Crime

To date 16 girls under 14 years of age have been mistreated since the first of the year. Elizabeth Valentine, a school girl of twelve years charged Elijah H. Foley, a chauffeur rooming at the same house with abusing her last Saturday night. He was held for the action of the Grand Jury by Magistrate Rholeder of the Northeastern District.

Elijah H. Foley, 23, 1933 Ashland Avenue, was held for the action of the Grand Jury Monday charged with criminally abusing 13-year-old Elizabeth Valentine of the same address. 6-1-23

According to her testimony told at the hearing Monday afternoon at the Northeastern Police Station, she was alone Saturday evening about 9:30 when Foley came home and after caressing her took her to a room on the second story of the building and abused her. About this time her father came in and hearing the noise found Foley hiding under the bed.

Not being certain what had happened the father was restrained from doing the man bodily harm and called in the police who arrested him. The officer testified that Foley admitted the girl's charge stating that it had occurred before and that he did not use force.

The fact that the girl is under 14 years of age, however, makes his act the same as statutory rape according to the laws of Maryland and he was held without bond for the action of the Grand Jury.

Foley is a chauffeur and has been a roomer in the same house with the parents of the girl for some time.

HELD FOR ASSAULT

Youth Had Just Finished Four-Year Term for the Same Offense

Edgar Edwards, 40 S. Howard street, is charged with attacking a 9-year-old white girl when she boarded an elevator which he operated at the Max Richlion tailoring establishment Monday. 6-12-23

Edwards, it was alleged, attempted to assault the girl after he had stopped the elevator, and according to the story told by the girl, choked her when she screamed for help. He escaped following the outcry, but was later arrested by Officer Lewis Klingerburg of the Western District.

Testimony produced at the hearing Wednesday showed that Edwards had recently finished a four-year term at the House of Correction for committing rape upon a little colored girl when he was 17 years of age. Magistrate Cadden held him for the action of the Grand Jury without bail.

Lynchings—1923.
Michigan.
Rapes: Alleged Attacks by Negroes.

1381

GREENWOOD [illegible] JOURNAL
JULY 27, 1923

Michigan Mob Seeks Two Negroes for Attacking Girl

St. Joseph, Mich., July 27.—Several hundred men menaced the county jail here last night in an effort to obtain two negroes, charged with an attack on a white girl at Benton harbor Sunday night. Sheriff Bridgeman, by a show of bravado, held the mob at bay.

He established a deadline and when one member of the mob crossed it, arrested him and lodged him in the cell adjoining the negroes. Finally the mob dispersed.

Fearing further violence, the sheriff appealed to Governor Groesbeck, for a detachment of troops. A comfor a detachment of troop.

The negroes, James Hazelwood and Andrew Corbett, were held in $25,000 bond each.

Michigan Man Nabbed As Attacker of Girl

The Courier-Journal, Louisville, Ky.

PONTIAC, Mich., Aug. 16. — Hazel Hilliker, 11 years old, positively identified Wednesday John Henry Williams, 52 years old, as the man who attacked her in a colored church near her home Monday afternoon. Williams was picked up in South Lyon. Williams admits he was in the church, but denied the attack. He will be charged with an attempted assault.

Lynchings — 1923.
Rape: — Alleged Attacks by Negroes.
Mississippi.
1382

FOUR NEGROES HELD.

The Commercial Appeal 8-20-23

One of Them Suspected of Attack on Two Women at Clarksdale.

CLARKSDALE, Miss., Aug. 19.—Four negroes, Richard Wiggins, his wife, Mannie Wiggins, Rance Whitaker and Sherman Miller, are being held in the city jail here in connection with the attack Saturday night upon Miss Ollie Forbes, 72 years old, in the Ford Rodgers home. Miss Forbes was struck twice on the head by a marauder, who was evidently bent upon robbery, when she attempted to prevent the forcible removal from her finger of a diamond ring. She had gotten up from her bed to go to the room of her niece Mrs. Rodges, whom she thought had called her and ran into the night prowler in the hallway. When she was struck the second time over the head she screamed and her cries awakened other members of the family, who ran to investigate and found Miss Forbes in a semi-conscious state upon her bed. It was at that time thought that she had suffered a hemorrhage and Dr. Hughes was summoned. Upon his arrival he said that she had been struck, this being the first intimation that any one other than members of the family had been in the house that night. Miss Forbes remained in her unconscious state until the next day. She is now reported to be out of danger. Of the four negroes arrested, it seems to be the general belief in official quarters that one of the men is the guilty party, although a grilling by Police Judge Jack Adams and Assistant Police Chief R. C. Luckett this morning failed to net any direct evidence. An imprint of the negro's foot was taken in flour, measured and compared with the print of a foot found in coal dust on the Rodgers premises and the two prints are said to have tallied in many respects. Following the attack, two of Bob Ganes' bloodhounds from Crystal Springs were brought here and they followed the trail, which led them to a negro shack on Sunflower Avenue in front of the county jail, where the four negroes mentioned were found and arrested. The bloodhounds were returned to Crystal Springs today.

Lynchings — 1923.

Rapes: — Alleged Attacks by Negroes.

Mississippi.

1383

THINK NEGROES ARRESTED

The Commercial Appeal 8-22-23

Clarksdale Officers Still Investigating Slugging of Woman.

CLARKSDALE, Miss., Aug. 21.—According to reports from the local police there are no late developments in the case of the negro, Richard Wiggins, who is being held in the city jail for a full investigation of the attack early Saturday night upon Miss Orlie Forbes, of Shreveport, La., who is the guest of her niece, Mrs. Ford Rogers. The police are following up every possible clue and last night an effort was made to secure aid in Memphis, where a postoffice inspector was made acquainted with the details of the attack and was asked to work in that city on the case. On the night preceding the morning of the attack two negroes, known as "bad eggs," were seen by an ex-policeman in this city and both of them are known to have boarded the early morning train here for Memphis on the morning of the attack. The Bob Gant bloodhounds, which were brought here from Crystal Springs on the day after, were put on the trail of the thief who entered the Milton Jones home on the same night of the attack on Miss Forbes, and the dogs followed this trail to the Y. & M. V. Depot. It is thought possible that one of the two negroes mentioned above, or both of them, had a hand in both the attack and the Milton Jones residential robbery. They are said to have been arrested this morning.

Miss Forbes, 72 years of age, is slowly recovering from her injuries. She was struck twice in the head by the night marauder.

CLARKSDALE WOMAN ATTACKED BY NEGRO

The Commercial Appeal 8-19-23

Memphis, Tenn.

Three Suspects Held After Dogs Take Trail.

CLARKSDALE, Mis., Aug. 18.—Mrs. Orlie Forbes, 71, is in a serious condition here tonight as a result of being struck on the head several times with a pistol and three negroes are held in the local jail after an attempted robbery about 3 o'clock this morning of the home of her neice, M rs. Fred Rogers, where Mrs. Forbes was staying.

Bob Gantt's bloodhounds from Crystal Springs took a trail from the Rogers home and followed it to a negro shack where the three suspects were arrested. R. C. Luckett, assistant chief of police stated tonight that police had not questioned the suspects closely and little was known of the details of the attempted robbery and attack due to the condition of Mrs. Forbes.

Feeling was high for a time after the negroes' arrest but officers expressed no fears for safety of their prisoners.

Lynchings—1923
Rape: Alleged Attacks by Negroes.

New York.

1384

NEGRO SOUGHT FOR KILLING GOVERNESS

Attempted Assault, Slashed Girl Several Times and Cut Her Throat

NEW YORK, July 5.—The police tonight sought a vagrant negro with his coat turned inside out, who was suspected of having murdered Dorothy Kaufmann, governess in the home of Magruder Craighead in the fashionable suburb of Scarsdale last Tuesday.

The Craigheads had gone out of town, leaving the governess alone in the house. The body was not found until yesterday and the discovery did not become known until today. The girls parents live in Somerset county, Maryland.

The body was found by Madeline Harmer, a friend of the dead girl. Medical authorities found that an attempt had been made to assault the girl, after which her back had been slashed seven times and her throat cut. The knife with which the governess was slashed lay in a corner of the room in which the body was found. Because of the brutality which marked the crime, the police expressed belief that the murderer was either a drug addict or mentally deranged.

Suspicion pointed to the vagrant negro now being sought when the police learned that he was reported to have been seen at the Craighead home.

Still later he was seen by Charles Baldwin, another negro employed in an estate nearby, vaulting a fence. His coat was turned inside out and the police advanced the theory that this might have been done to hide bloodstains.

Baldwin told detectives he had seen the negro drop a box of crackers from his pocket when he leaped the fence. The police are comparing finger marks found on the box with those on the knife handle.

manner will be sent to the police all over the country. Westchester authorities believe that he is hiding in the county or not far away, and that he will soon be caught. They say he had no money and no friends with money enough to get him very far away.

Every day the negro remains away from his haunts strengthens the belief of the authorities that he is the man described by Madeline Harmer, friend of the murdered girl, and by others in the vicinity, as the vagrant seen wandering about the countryside between Mt. Vernon and the Craighead home during the morning and early part of the afternoon last Tuesday.

1335 ATTICA, N. Y., NEWS
AUGUST 9, 1923

Mob Attempts to Lynch Young Negro

Police of Richmond Hill (New York city) fought off an angry crowd bent on capturing Clifford Chamberlain, 15-year old negro, charged with having attacked a 17-year-old white girl as she was returning home. Infuriated passers-by chased the negro for more than half a mile. Policemen held off the crowd and arrested the boy. The girl, treated by an ambulance surgeon, identified Chamberlain as her assailant.

NO TRACE LAYER OF YOUNG GOVERNESS

Search Widens for Suspected Murderer of Girl in Grenburgh Hom.

The Westchester authorities continued their search yesterday for the negro known as John Thomas or John Smith, whose description was broadcast by radio Sunday night as a suspect in the murder of Dorothy Kauffman, the governess stabbed to death last Tuesday in the home of Magruder Craighead, at Greenburgh.

Although the negro's description, emphasizing his peculiarities of gait and

Lynchings—1923,
Rapes;—Alleged Attacks by Negroes.

North Carolina.

1385

NEGRO IMPRISONED ON ASSAULT CHARGE

Gastonia, N. C. August 8. R. A. Davis, aged 17, a negro charged with attempted assault on young white woman at her Gaston county home, now here is held in jail here after being captured in the heart of the city last night while posses scoured the adjoining rural districts for him. Sheriff Robert Rhyne stated today the negro admitted he was the person the posses were hunting. A preliminary hearing will be arranged as soon as the young woman can appear. She was not injured but is suffering from nervous shock.

MORRISON TELLS NEGROES HE IS NO NEWS BUREAU

WINSTON SALEM, N. C., Journal

Association for Negro Advancement Is Stirred by Spruce Pine Affair

SEP 29 1923

ASKED GOVERNOR TO KEEP THEM POSTED

Executive Determined to Enforce the Law in Mitchell County

By BROCK BARKLEY
(Special to The Journal.)
JOURNAL BUREAU,
312 TUCKER BUILDING.

Raleigh, Sept. 28.—With one dip of ink, Governor Morrison today signed an order sending troops to Spruce Pine for the protection of negroes in Mitchell county and placed his signature to a telegram telling the New York negro society "for the advancement of colored people" to get its information as the rest of the public acquires it.

Reports from Spruce Pine that an armed mob was demanding the deportation of all negroes from the county, including negro convicts of the state prison system working on the state highways, brought immediate action from the governor this morning, and by 5 o'clock this afternoon troops were reported to have arrived at the scene of the trouble.

Offers Reward

For the apprehension of the negro trusty of the state prison camp, whose alleged attack on Mrs. Mack Thomas, aged white woman of Spruce Pine, precipitated the trouble, the governor offered a reword of $400, the maximum allowed under the law.

While preparations were underway for issuing the order for troops, the telegram came from the national society for the advancement of colored people asking for information as to the trouble and calling upon the governor to use all the power at his command to protect the negroes. This telegram, signed by Walter White, assistant secretary of the organization, read:

"Press dispatches report that an armed mob of two hundred citizens of Spruce Pine, North Carolina, are today rounding up all male negroes in Spruce Pine and vicinity and deporting them on freight trains because of an alleged attack by a negro on an aged white woman. National association for the advancement of colored people is requesting of you information regarding correctness of this report and is also asking that you as governor of the state use all power at your command to protect the civil and constitutional rights of colored citizens who are being driven from their homes and jobs regardless of their innocence or guilt."

The Reply

The following reply was dispatched:

"My actions in matter referred to by you are being given to Associated Press as quickly as can be done and prevent action of state being prematurely made known to the lawless from whom we seek to protect the state. You can get information through the news sources as the rest of the public acquire it."

To newspaper men, the governor stressed that he is determined, to see that the law is enforced. He emphasized the lawless movements of a mob that would seek to drive negroes away, pointing out the open violation of the law.

From reports received at the executive offices, the anti-negro crusade in Mitchell county seemed to have grown more serious overnight. Communications from Mayor Adams, of Spruce Pine, who has made a desperate effort to protect the negroes and uphold the law, prompted the governor's quick call for troops. Chairman Frank Page, of the state highway commission, reported this morning that the commission's highway construction force, which is employing a considerable number of negro convicts from the state prison camp, had been ordered to leave the county by the Mitchell county mob.

Camp Reported Moved

Unconfirmed reports this afternoon were to the effect that the camp had already moved over into Tennessee, the border being a short distance from Spruce Pine. The governor declared that if that were true, the construction force would be brought back to Spruce Pine and put to work tomorrow morning after the troops had taken up guard duty.

Superintendent George Ross Pou reported to the governor this morning that 33 negroes were in the prison camp at that place. It was one of these negroes, a trusty, who sought to attack Mrs. Thomas. The negro was nearing the completion of a ten year sentence and had recently been made a trusty.

Major Hugh A. Love, chief clerk of the state's prison, has been sent to Spruce Pine to look after the prison's interest there and to direct the re-establishment of the camp after order has been made certain.

The entire calvary troop of Asheville and forty men from the Morganton military company were ordered to Spruce Pine by Assistant Adjutant General Gordon Smith as soon as the governor issued his call. Adjutant General J. Van B. Metts, who went to Spruce Pine under orders from the governor last night, was expected to take command. He had not been able to communicate with Raleigh this afternoon but word from him was expected.

Brinkley Paroled

"Old Man" Dan Brinkley, recaptured and returned to the state's prison a few months ago after thirty years of freedom following his escape in the early nineties, was given a conditional parole by the governor today. The parole was granted without setting forth reasons but with comment on the unique career of the prisoner.

Raleigh, N. C., Times
SEP 29 1923

GOVERNOR MEETS SITUATION IN MITCHELL

Governor Morrison's attitude toward the demonstration of lawlessness in Mitchell County is exactly what the State has a right to expect of him. There can be no countenancing of the attempt on the Mitchell folks to deport negro citizens of the State and to force the removal of a State convict camp. The self-respect of the commonwealth demands that proof be given of the State's willingness and intention to defend the rights of the citizenship against part of the population.

It will hardly be necessary to do more than make a demonstration in Mitchell, which will shortly realize that it has started something it cannot finish. Business as regards the construction on which the negroes were employed will be as usual following its temporary suspension.

Perhaps Mitchell will not like it; but that is of secondary importance. The negroes will not care for continued residence in that section, either. But there is nothing that the National Society for the Advancement of Colored People will be able to do about it. The matter is squarely up to the State Government.

The Governor displays his usual firmness. It is to be hoped that when the time comes for tact he will rise to the occasion. also.

High Point, N. C., Enterprise
SEP 29 1923

Trouble With Negroes Quieted By the Presence of Soldiery Which Is Not Resented

ROAD FORCES ARE BACK

Great Tobacco Grower Is Kept In the Cooperative Association By Courts

HE IS GIANT OF FARM

Crop Liens On His Plantation Are Said to Total As High As $117,000 In a Single Year

SPECIAL TO THE ENTERPRISE

RALEIGH, Sept. 29.—Soldiers yesterday evening greatly tapered the Mitchell county rage against innocent negroes working for the state completely the purpose of Mitchell both in free prison camps and the men to weed the the race out.

The obtrusion of the New York organization known as the national association for the advancement of colored people did not get in such shape as to make either the whites up west or down here mad. Always this society gets into southern race questions and any utterance that it makes is generally hurtful to local issue. Governor Morrison received a telegram from its assistant secretary asking for information as to the trouble. The governor cited him to the papers. They had all that he did and substantially all that he knew.

The Spruce Pine situation came nearer resembling the riots of the north any any occurring in the state in a long time. It is rare that the neighborhood wrath is visited on innocent and guilty alike. In this instance no actual violence was done. In state circles yesterday it was declared that the Mitchell citizens never did banish the state prison camp, they did wait on the workers there and tell them to take the blacks away. Last night a message came through that the soldiers were at Spruce Pine and that the negroes in camp, which had been moved away in the abundance of caution, would return to work under state guard. As soon as the work is renewed officials expect the trouble to vanish.

The state is building a stretch of road up there and it means to finish the job. There will be no delay in it. Mitchell is so committed to roads that further attempts to block work will hardly be possible. Governor Morrison received great praise yesterday for the quick way in which he handled an affair of potential deviltry. The presence of the troops aroused no popular resentment, according to messages received here last night.

The reports last night indicated that there had been a sharp overemphasis on the whole thing. The temper of the posse was declared not to have been anything like so vehement as the action indicated. But Governor Morrison received full credit for acting immediately.

Permanent restraining order against J. C. Ruffin, one of those 400-horse Edgecombe farmers, was issued yeseterday by Judge Calvert and the great tobacco grower must handle his crop through the co-operatives.

According to the evidence submitted, Mr. Ruffin runs such a mammoth tobacco business that the crop liens against lands operated by tenants runs up to $117,000. But this did not avail when he came to make his defense on the charge of breaking the contract and selling the crop elsewhere. Judge Calvert had a chance to rule on the late question of taxing the landlord with the poundage which his non-member tenants sell on independent floors but the judge officially recognizing the recent act of the directors, did not impose this tax on the owner.

The injunction against Mr. Ruffin is quite the biggest case settled by any individual since the association was formed. He appealed the case to the supreme court and it will be heard at this sitting.

Defense in the trial of Eddie E. Hurt, Fort Bragg soldier who is indicted for murder under the federal statute, is ready for the hearing Tuesday which will be the first federal trial for murder in the state in 50 years.

Hurt stands charged with killing a Greek who was gambling with him and as evidence of the premeditation necessary as a murder ingredient, it is charged that he buried his victim's body under the gymnasium at the camp. Hurt is said to have confessed the killing and one of the officers will so testify against him.

That Hurt will not be hanged is accepted. The federal law calls for the rope. But nobody expects capital punishment of the offense. The federal juries can save a defendant by bringing in a verdict asking the court to show mercy. In that event the court would give the jury's verdict and fix punishment in accordance with it.

NEGRO CONVICT CAUGHT AFTER ALLEGED ASSAULT

Man Thought to Have Caused Trouble at Spruce Pine is Apprehended.

HICKORY, N. C., Sept. 29.—John C. Goff, negro state convict trusty, was apprehended near here late today on a charge of attacking an aged white woman near Spruce Pine, last Wednesday and left in custody of officers for Raleigh tonight. It was his alleged attack on the woman which precipitated a situation at Spruce Pine resulting in state troops being sent there.

According to the police, the negro denied attempting to attack the woman, but was said to have admitted that he lured her from her home in order to steal a pair of shoes.

ASHEVILLE, N. C.
SEP 29 1923

The Race Problem In Spruce Pine

Like the Mayor of Johnstown, Pa., a band of Spruce Pine citizens holds an entire group of Negroes responsible for the crime of one Negro and, as unlawfully as the Johnstown official, orders the Negroes to get out.

These two incidents, one in Pennsylvania, the other in North Carolina, furnish another illustration of the fact that race-friction is not a sectional phenomenon; it is a problem of human nature and one that may be as serious in New York City as in the South's Black Belt. Wherever in the United States the blacks gather in large numbers, racial animosities are intensified; wherever, in America, the colored man is a stranger in a strange land the danger of outbreaks against him are greater.

It is probable that, until recent years, there were no Negroes living in Mitchell County. It is said that there are no native Negroes in Spruce Pine, those engaged in construction work there having been brought in for that purpose. Elsewhere in the county are Negro employes in mines and other enterprises. In not a few communities of the Western North Carolina mountains there are no resident Negroes and in such places it has never been wise for the Negro to seek a home. His mere presence is a disturbance of the ordinary procedure of life.

Considering these conditions, it is worthy of note that the Mitchell County deportations have taken place without any actual violance, as it appears at the time of writing this. The self-appointed vigilance committee simply ordered the Negroes to go and they went. The officers of the law and a considerable number of citizens, it is reported, opposed any mob action whatever.

Forcible deportation is wrong, whether in Spruce Pine or Johnstown, but let it be said for Spruce Pine, that according to the information now available, the officers charged with upholding the law seem to have done all they could in the performance of duty. And these officials were not alone in their position that there must be one law for white and black in holding that lawlessness can only make bad matters worse when the dominant race is dealing with a weaker one, a lower race that can learn its lesson of law and order only from those whom civilization has set over them as masters.

The dispatch of the Asheville cavalry troop to Spruce Pine will put an end, in all probability, to whatever danger there may have been of violence and will stop the deportations. The citizens of Mitchell have become enraged over a crime most provocative of avenging passions and the local officers needed the support which Governor Morrison yesterday gave them.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., News
OCT 6 - 1923

NEGRO JAILED FOR ASSAULT

Prompt Action of Rural Policeman Probably Prevents Lynching.

Lumberton, Oct. 6.—Jule McClellan, negro, is in jail here awaiting trial by Superior Court, having been held without bond yesterday at a preliminary hearing before Recorder W. B. Ivey on charges of attempted criminal assault upon Mrs. Leo Atkinson. The attempted assault occurred at Mrs. Atkinson's home near Proctorville early yesterday morning.

The prompt action of D. C. Ratley, rural policeman, in arresting the negro probably prevented a lynching. The white male residents of the district are today said to be somewhat stirred up over the negro's actions, but willing to let the law take its course. Officer Ratley, who happened to be within a few miles of where the assault took place, heard of it within a few minutes and went direct to the home of the negro and took him into custody, finding him in the act of washing soot from his face, which he had used in an effort to conceal his identity, the negro confessed.

According to the evidence offered before Recorder Ivey, the negro, knowing that Mr. Atkinson had left his home for Lumberton, went to the front door of the house, where Mrs. Atkinson was and knocked for admittance. She opened the door and was shocked to see the negro standing before her. He grabbed her by the hands and began a struggle, during which both fell on a bed, when she screamed and managed to break his hold. He ran out of the house without accomplishing his purpose.

Neighbors were attracted by the screams and notified Policeman Ratley, who happened to be in that locality serving papers.

Mrs. Atkinson's shirt waist and sheets from the bed, which were both soiled by the soot from the negro's face, were offered as evidence.

The negro claims he is only 13 years of age, while citizens of that community state that he is at least 16. His home is within a half mile of the Atkinson home. Mrs. Atkinson is also young, approximately 19, and has been married less than two years.

TROOPS TO KEEP ORDER AS BLACKS RETURN TO WORK

9-29-23

Two Companies of North Carolina Militia Take Charge After Negroes Are Banished.

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS.

Spruce Pine, N. C., September 28.—Between 150 and 175 negro laborers deported yesterday and today from the vicinity of Spruce Pine by citizens of this vicinity will be returned to work tomorrow under military guard, if necessary, it was stated by militia officials here tonight.

Adjutant General J. Van Metts arrived here this afternoon and companies F and B of the North Carolina National Guard arrived early tonight acting on orders from Governor Morrison to take charge of the situation and protect the rights of all citizens, white and colored.

The arrival of the troops here came at the close of two day's fraught with excitement for this community, the result of an alleged attack upon an aged white woman by an unidentified negro, believed to be an escaped convict from a road gang working near here. Immediately following the report by the woman a posse assembled and set out in search of the negro. In the meantime others got together and summarily ordered all negroes to leave the community, it is said. More than three score are said to have departed yesterday.

All Negroes Obey Order.

Those who remained today were given until early this afternoon to get away and they departed within the time limit set, most of them proceeding toward the Tennessee line. This afternoon not a single negro was left in the town. The negroes who were ordered away were for the most part working on road projects of the state highway commission and today this work was at a standstill. It is this work, declared Adjutant General Metts tonight, which must proceed and which will proceed even if it is necessary tomorrow to place military guards at the highway camps to protect the negroes from the citizens of the community.

Adjutant General Metts arrived here this afternoon. When it was seen to what extent the negroes had been deported, the officer, following a conference with local officials, declared that the governor's orders to restore order and protect all citizens would be carried out immediately. The soldiers, ordered here by Governor Morrison, were garrisoned in warehouses and tomorrow will take positions as ordered by the general.

Posse Still Out.

Until the military arrived here the citizens of Spruce Pine had no intimation that Governor Morrison had issued orders for them to mobilize.

Spruce Pine was quiet tonight. Tomorrow the soldiers will round up the negroes who are in the adjacent countryside, it is stated, and they will be returned to their work. Local officials, while not apprehensive of any extended serious trouble, stated they were glad to have the assistance of the military in handling a situation which held such serious possibilities.

Another posse organized here this morning and searched for the escaped negro convict who is believed to have attempted the attack upon the aged woman. At a late hour tonight members of this posse had not returned here nor had any word been received from its members.

Constitution

SPRUCE PINE FOLKS BANISH ALL BLACKS.

Raleigh, N. C., September 28.—At the governor's office it was stated that a policy of prevention would govern in handling the Spruce Pine situation, it being the desire of the administration to prevent any serious outbreak by taking the matter in hand at once.

Following reports to the state's executive office that a group of citizens of Mitchell county had warned the supervisor of a state convict camp near the scene of the reported attack by an escaped negro convict on an aged white woman Wednesday, to move the camp by noon today, Governor Morrison announced that law and order would be maintained if it is within his power to do so.

9-29-30

Governor Morrison said that Mayor A. N. Fuller, of Spruce Pine, and other authorities were doing all in their power to maintain order in the vicinity of the mountain town.

Society Intervenes.

Governor Morrison this morning received a telegram from Walter F. White, assistant secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, requesting information concerning the reported deportation of negroes from Mitchell county and calling on him to exercise his power to protect "the civil and constitutional rights of colored citizens who are being driven from their homes and jobs, regardless of their innocence or guilt.

Replying to the telegram, the state's chief executive said his actions in regard to the Mitchell county disturbance were being given to the press as quickly as possible and could be learned from the newspapers. He said he would make no private reports to the association concerning the disturbance or his actions in regard to it.

FORCED EXODUS REPORTED COMPLETE.

Spruce Pine, N. C., September 28. The forced exodus of black laborers was reported complete today by Mayor A. S. Fuller, the crowd of citizens who collected nearly 100 negroes from construction gangs in the vicinity and placed them aboard freight trains yesterday, declared that they will never have another negro in their town. Mayor Fuller said today that while the sentiment will probably die down within a few days, it is necessary that the improvements go forward. There is no white labor available, he said, and it is necessary that negroes be brought back.

No trace of John Goff, 22, escaped negro convict, who is believed to have attacked the white woman Wednesday noon on a public road near her home has been found, though more than 100 citizens have been diligently searching for him. Things were quiet this morning, though Mayor Fuller was frank in declaring that he didn't know what would happen if the crowd finds Goff. The mayor said he is practically without means of defending the negro, and the whole town is determined upon its action should Goff be caught.

Goff was sentenced from Wilmington, N. C., and was brought here with a group of other convicts from the state prison to work for a contracting firm.

Lynchings — 1923.
Rape:— Alleged Attacks by Negroes.

1386

RALEIGH N. C. Observer

OCT 2 - 1923

THE SPRUCE PINE TROUBLE.

This paper appreciates the expressions of thanks that *The News and Observer* has given the fullest and quickest stories of the happenings in Mitchell county, growing out of the expulsion of the negroes working at Spruce Pine. Just as soon as the news reached Raleigh, Mr. Ben Dixon MacNeill, of the staff of this paper, hastened to the scene. Familiar with that section, having gone over it twice with members of the Road Commission, and appreciating the people of that section of the State, Mr. MacNeill's stories have been graphic and informing. He has given the atmosphere and feelings of the people as well as the detailed account of the occurrences.

The driving out of the negro workers, as Mr. MacNeill points out is nothing new. The people of that county have never been willing to have negroes among them. Few negroes have desired to live in the uncongenial atmosphere, and the few who have sought to make it home have remained but a short time. The impression in other sections, as they have read about the expulsion, has been that what they call "fire-eating Democrats of the South" have been persecuting the negroes. As a matter of fact Mitchell is the banner Republican county of the State and has never failed to roll up big majorities for Republican candidates. Even in 1920, when the Republicans made poorer show in North Carolina than in any other State of the Union, Mitchell county polled 2,309 votes for the Republican candidate for Governor and only 736 for the Democratic candidate.

That was a good year for Democrats in Mitchell as well as Republicans for Bickett got only 462 votes for Governor in 1916 and Linney received only 1,297. Kitchin received 575, Glenn 417 and Craig 412. Their Republicans opponents received 1,797, 1,361 and 1,190 respectively.

There were never many negroes in Mitchell. The census of 1880 showed 8,932 whites and 503 blacks. By 1890 the white population had increased to 12,252 and the blacks were 553. In 1900 there were 14,685 whites and 536 blacks. That was high-water mark for the negro population. In 1910 there were only 343 and the 1920 census showed only 56 negroes in Mitchell though the white population was 11,218. A reduction of negroes from 536 to 56 shows that Mitchell was not attractive to negroes or the number would not have dwindled. There were no large industries there and the white labor did not wish the introduction or retention of negro labor.

The whole State hopes that there will be no blood-shed in Mitchell and that the laws will be obeyed by all the people.

ASHEVILLE, N. C
Times.
OCT 12 1923

The Governor Acted Wisely

Now that the Spruce Pine situation has been tided over without any serious development, there seems to be a growing disposition in some quarters to argue that Governor MORRISON acted upon unwise advice in dispatching the troops to Spruce Pine.

These critics ignore the soothing effect that the presence of the soldiers had upon the tense situation that existed in Spruce Pine. They wish to exult in the consequences without accepting the cause.

Governor MORRISON should be praised for the firmness and promptness with which he acted. Indecision on his part might have led to the most tragic consequences.

Those who visited Spruce Pine in the early days of the emergency know that feeling ran high. It might have spent itself without any serious developments. There was always the possibility, however, that it might vent itself in a tragedy.

Governor MORRISON took no chances. Instead of delaying action he made an immediate decision. Like the cautious Governor that he is, he gave the benefit of the doubt to the worst view of the situation. His action relieved the tension and made it possible for Spruce Pine to gain possession of itself in the shortest order.

North Carolina.

CONDITIONS AT SPRUCE PINE ARE GROWING SERIOUS WITH ARRESTS

Montgomery Advertiser

People Stirred Over Recent Attack by Negro on White Woman

Urge That Speedy Justice be Measured Out to Guilty One: Sons of Woman Follow Trail for Days

SPRUCE PINE, N. C., Sept. 30.—E. L. Breen and Peter Bicks today were arrested on warrants sworn out by Chief of Police Wright charging breach of peace and tending to incite the people by circulating a petition which alleged that Mayor Fuller was illegally holding office. They were given a hearing before the Mayor and bound over for trial before Justice of the Peace Bennett and released on bond of $200 each.

Counter Charge Is Filed.

The two defendants in their petition alleged that a $75,000 bond issue for Spruce Pine was illegally issued in addition to charges that Mayor Fuller was not properly elected to office because he was not voted on by the people. The mayor explained that he was elected to the office last May by the board of aldermen, when Dr. Charles Peterson, who had been chosen by a vote of the people, could not serve because he had been elected to the North Carolina house of representatives and the constitution forbids anyone from holding two offices.

Word reached here today that the negro convict, charged with having attacked the white woman, had been arrested and taken to the state penitentiary at Raleigh for safekeeping. It was understood here this afternoon that the negro would be brought to Hickory, N. C., one day this week for identification. It also was understood that a special term of court would be requested for Bakersville, the county seat of this (Mitchell) county, for the purpose of trying the negro.

Thirty-five additional members of the national guard arrived today from Asheville, bringing the total on duty here to 145 men. They comprise two companies, one of engineers from Morganton and the other of cavalry from Asheville. The cavalrymen received their horses this afternoon by special train.

One negro woman remains in Spruce Pine. All other negroes left in the round-up.

There are no permanent negro residents of Spruce Pine. The ones who were driven out were at the time working state road projects. Efforts are being made to have them come back.

Sons Go Days on Trail.

The woman who was attacked is 68 years old, the mother of six children, and the grandmother of 28. She said today that the negro came to her house and, under the pretense of asking for food, attacked her. Her sons learned of the affair within a few hours and followed the trail of the negro for 75 miles through the heart of the mountains and over trails that would be impassable to any except one born and raised in the mountain country. They lost his trail at Valdes, on the railroad near Morganton. They returned home and it was said that they went to bed this morning at 2 o'clock for the first time since the attack took place. They made the pursuit on foot and from information they obtained they understood that one time they were only an hour and a half behind the negro.

NEGROES BROUGHT BACK TO SPRUCE PINE

Constitution

Spruce Pine, N. C., October 2.—(By the Associated Press.)—Negro workmen who were driven out of this community last Wednesday by armed mobs are beginning to return and to take up their jobs on highways and in the mines. Twelve of the departees reached town this afternoon from Winnsboro, S. C., bringing the total of those who have returned during the last 24 hours to 23.

Only a small crowd of mountaineers were at the railway station this afternoon when the 12 negroes stepped off a train. Troops under command of Major E. P. Robinson quickly surrounded the negroes and they were accompanied by cavalrymen to their camp near Spruce Pine. They will resume work tomorrow morning on a highway leading into the town. Work on the roads was abandoned last week when between 150 and 200 negroes were driven from the community.

Military and county authorities were somewhat surprised today when they learned that the impression had gotten out in the state that the negroes run out of Mitchell county were prisoners engaged in highway construction.

They declare that none of the convicts were molested by the mob, the negroes deported being wage earners employed by concerns building roads in laying a sewerage system for Spruce Pine and in the mines.

The aged white woman who was attacked by a negro left this afternoon, accompanied by her husband and a deputy sheriff, for Raleigh where she will try to identify the man held there on suspicion as being her assailant. She is expected to reach Raleigh early tomorrow morning.

"I do hope they have the right man," she said to newspapermen. "I feel certain I can identify the man who attacked me. If the man at Raleigh is not the man I believe I can tell it."

FEW NEGRO LABORERS RETURN TO SPRUCE PINE

Montgomery Advertiser

Escorted From Train by Military and Will Start Work Soon.

SPRUCE PINE, N. C., October 2.—Eight negro laborers who were run out of Spruce Pine by a band of armed mountaineers last Wednesday following an attack upon an aged white woman by a negro, returned here earlier today, making a total of eleven who are back in the town. Three other negroes were returned here this afternoon from Forest City, where they had taken refuge. About two hundred men gathered at the railway station when the train arrived but there was no demonstration made against them.

When the negroes stepped from the train a cordon of soldiers surrounded them. With mounted cavalry as guard they were escorted to their camp on the outskirts of the city. They are part of a gang which had been employed on sewer work by the town.

It was announced that they would be put back to work tomorrow morning and soldiers will see that they are not molested by the civilian population.

Negro Denies Attack On Carolina Woman

Associated Press Report.

HICKORY, N. C., Sept. 29.—John C. Goff, negro State convict trusty, was apprehended near here late today on a charge of attacking an aged white woman near Spruce Pine last Wednesday and left in custody of officers for Raleigh tonight. It was the attack on the woman which precipitated a situation at Spruce Pine resulting in State troops being sent there.

According to the police, the negro denied attempting to attack the woman but was said to have admitted that he lured her from her home in order to steal a pair of shoes.

ASHEVILLE, N. C., CITIZEN

DEC 13 1923

Indecent Propbsal by Negro To White Girl Is Considered Assault. Supreme Court Rules

RALEIGH, Dec. 12.—An insulting proposal or improper language, directed to a woman by a man, and causing her fear and apprehension, constitutes an assault, and such a proposal made to a white woman by a negro man would normally aggravate the offense, the Supreme Court held today in affirming the Superior Court of Henderson County, which sentenced Osborne Williams, 23-year old negro to 18 months on the road for an "assault" on 15-year old Dora Justice, a white girl.

The offense occurred on the streets of Hendersonville, and the evidence showed that Williams had persisted in insulting proposals to the girl, the number of incidents of the character being reported at five. The girl, who has since married and is now named Dora Thompson, became fearful and apprehensive as the consequence of the negro's improper language and had to resort to the protection of her brother-in-law in going to school.

After the fifth approach of the negro on the Hendersonville streets, the young woman made an outcry and his arrest followed.

At the Superior Court trial, the defense claimed there did not exist the elements of an assault under the law as there was no demonstration. The charge of Judge McElroy was also excepted to, because the judge had charged the jury regarding the difference in race. The negro's attorneys argued the court's references threatened the rights of the negro to equal protection of the law.

In writing the Supreme Court's opinion, upholding the charge of Judge McElroy and affirming the Court, Associate Justice Clarkson declared it was a matter for determination by the jury "if fear and apprehension would not be greater in a white girl of 15 meeting a negro man of 23, using foul and indecent proposals and language to her."

Justice Clarkson emphasized that an actual demonstration is not necessary in establishing the elements of assault, under the law, for, if the threats or statements of one caused another to apprehend serious danger, that in itself constitutes an assault.

The opinion, after upholding Judge McElroy in his references to the difference of race, dealt at considerable length with the rights of the negro, establishing the "equality of protection."

Rights of Negro.

"We believe in this state the negro has the equal protection of the laws," Justice Clarkson wrote. "In fact, the best friends the negro has are his white neighbors. The negro has been in many respects a chosen people—brought here, the land of opportunity, a civilized people, without any effort on their part, from Africa. The burden imposed, not sought, has been on the white people of the state to civilize and Christianize them. The trust has been and is being faithfully performed. The race is making great strides."

The opinion reviews the advance of the negro and the development of opportunities for him in North Carolina, especially in an educational way.

That was the purpose of setting forth the advantages offered the negro and evidencing the treatment of him by the white man. The court also held that the negro has equal protection under the law in North Carolina; but the fact does not offset the equally vital fact that the white woman would normally suffer greater fear and apprehension from the threat of improper proposal of a negro than the threat or proposal of a white man.

The court settled an important difficulty involved in the proposal to build a schoolhouse in the 71st consolidated district of Cumberland County today. It reversed in part, modified in part and affirmed, the opinion being written by Justice Adams. The case involved contentions as to whether the County Board of Education or the District School Committeemen should handle the building fund of $40,000 and a difference of community preferences as to the location.

Another case emphasized the legal right of a woman to bring suit for support by her husband from whom she is separated, in the county of her residence. Under an agreement of separation signed at Greensboro, J. Bayles Rector agreed to pay Mrs. Bessie F. Rector $85 per month. He respected the agreement for three months and then refused to pay more. In the meantime she had removed to Asheville, while he retained his home in Greensboro.

The allegations existed that she was unable to live with him. Upon his failure to make further payments, Mrs. Rector brought suit in the Buncombe County Superior Court. The defendant moved for a non-suit on the grounds that the suit should have been brought in Guilford, the county of his residence. The lower court refused to grant the motion and Rector appealed. The Supreme Court upheld the lower court and emphasized that the woman had the legal right to bring suit in the county of her residence.

The full list of opinions follows:

List Of Opinions.

Chesson vs. Lynch, Lenoir, new trial.

School Committee et al vs. Board of education, et al, Cumberland, in part, reversed; in part modified and affirmed.

Belton vs. The Farmers and Merchants Bank and Trust Co., et al, Rockingham, affirmed.

Austin vs. Crispa, Caldwell, no error.

Newton vs. Henrietta Mill, Cleveland, no error.

State vs. Osborne Williams, Henderson, no error.

State vs. Byers, Polk, no error.

Merchants and Farmers Bank vs. Pearson Whiting, et al, Avery, no error.

Avery County et al vs. C. W. Smith and C. S. Abernethy and son, Avery, new trial.

Randolph vs. Roberts, Yancy, no error.

State vs. Esley Edmonds, Madison, no error.

Rector vs. Rector, Buncombe, affirmed.

Hunt vs. Atkins, Atkins vs Hunt, Stokes, per curiam judgment affirmed without written opinion.

State vs. E. E. Edmonds, Buncombe, per curiam judgment affirmed without written opinion.

Lynchings—1923.
Rapes: Alleged Attacks by Negroes.

North Carolina.

1387

National Guard Outfits Arrive At Spruce Pine; Deported Negroes To Return To Highway Work Today

ASHEVILLE, N. C., Citizen SEP 29 1923

TROOPS' ARRIVAL IS SURPRISE TO THE CITIZENSHIP

Not One Negro Remained in Spruce Pine After Order, Says Report.

METTS SAYS ORDER WILL BE RESTORED

Nothing Heard From Posse Which Is in Search of Negro Assailant.

(BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS)

SPRUCE PINE, Sept. 28.—Between 150 and 175 negro laborers deported yesterday and today from the vicinity of Spruce Pine by citizens of this vicinity will be returned to work tomorrow under military guard if necessary, it was stated by militia officials here tonight.

Adjutant J. Van Metts arrived here this afternoon and Companies F and B of the North Carolina National Guard arrived early tonight, acting on orders from Gov. Morrison to take charge of the situation and protect the rights of all citizens, white and colored.

The arrival of the troops here came at the close of two days fraught with excitement for this community, the result of an alleged attack upon an aged white woman by an unidentified negro, believed to be an escaped convict from a road gang working near here. Immediately following the report by the woman, a posse assembled and set out in search of the negro. In the meantime others got together and summarily ordered all negroes to leave the community, it is said. More than three score are said to have departed yesterday.

Those who remained today were given until early this afternoon to get away and they separated within the time limit set, most of them proceeding toward the Tennessee line. This afternoon not a single negro was left in the town. The negroes who were ordered away were for the most part, working on road projects of the State Highway Commission and today this work was at a standstill. It is this work, declared Adjt. General Mettz tonight, which must proceed and which will proceed, even if it is necessary tomorrow to place military guards at the highway camps to protect the negroes from the citizens of this community.

Adjt. Gen. Mettz arrived here this afternoon. When it was seen to what extent the negroes had been deported, the officer, following a conference with local officials, declared that the Governor's orders to restore order and protect all citizens would be carried out immediately. The soldiers, ordered here by Gov. Morrison, were garrisoned in warehouses and tomorrow will take positions as ordered by the General.

Until the military arrived here the citizens of Spruce Pine had no intimation that Governor Morrison had issued orders for them to mobilize. Spruce Pine was quiet tonight. Tomorrow the soldiers will round up the negroes who are in the adjacent countryside, it is stated, and they will be returned to their work. Local officials, while not apprehensive of any extended serious trouble, stated they were glad to have the assistance of the military, in handling a situation which held such serious possibilities.

Another posse organized here this morning and searched for the escaped negro convict who is believed to have attempted the attack upon the aged woman. At a late hour tonight members of this posse had not returned here, nor had any word been received from its members.

GOVERNOR ACTS QUIETLY TO QUELL DISORDER

RALEIGH, Sept. 28.—Governor Morrison went into consultation at 11:30 o'clock with Major Gordon Smith, second in command to Adjutant General Metts. No details of what would be discussed at the conference was made public but it was understood that Major Smith had received additional data on the situation at Spruce Pine, where a deportation of negroes is reported to be in progress.

Adjutant General Metts is en route to Spruce Pine and is expected to arrive there about 2:30 o'clock this afternoon.

At the Governor's office it was stated a policy of prevension would govern in handling the Spruce Pine situation, it being the desire of the administration to prevent any serious outbreak by taking the matter in hand at once.

Governor Morrison said that Mayor A. N. Fuller, of Spruce Pine, and other authorities, were doing all in their power to maintain order in the vicinity of the mountain town.

TRUSTY SYSTEM TO BE CHANGED BY GOVERNOR

RALEIGH, Sept. 28.—Governor Morrison tonight declared that it was his purpose to limit the practice of State prison camp convicts being placed in the positions of trusties. His decision was made, he said, as a result of the various crimes which recently have been committed by such convicts. The Governor referred particularly to the alleged attack upon a white woman by a trusty near Spruce Pine which precipitated the deportation of negroes there yesterday and today.

Governor To Make No Reports Other Than In The Press

(BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS)

RALEIGH, Sept. 28.—Governor Morrison this morning received a telegram from Walter F. White, assistant secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, requesting information concerning the reported deportation of negroes from Mitchell County and calling on him to exercise his power to protect "the civil and constitutional rights of colored citizens who are being driven from their homes and jobs, regardless of their innocence or guilt."

Replying to the telegram, the State's Chief Executive said his actions in regard to the Mitchell County disturbance were being given to the press as quickly as possible and could be learned from the newspapers. He said he would make no private reports to the association, concerning the disturbance or his actions in regard to it.

NEGROES TO GET PROTECTION, SAYS CHIEF EXECUTIVE

Trusty System in State Prisons May Go—Governor Thinks It Unwise.

CITIZEN NEWS BUREAU
YARBOROUGH HOTEL
(By BROCK BARKLEY)

RALEIGH, Sept. 28.—The negro highway construction gang, moved from Spruce Pine into Avery County this morning under threats from the Mitchell County mob will be moved back to Spruce Pine tomorrow morning under the protection of State troops, Governor Morrison said tonight in reiterating his purpose to see that protection is afforded all negroes in the county.

According to word reaching Raleigh, the mob demanded the deportation of the negro workers, about 33 of whom were convicts from the State prison camp in Mitchell County, by noon. Facing this threat the construction bosses moved the camp across the county line. Governor Morrison sent Major Hugh Love, chief clerk of the State's prison, to Spruce Pine to see that the convicts' camp is reestablished and that the negro prisoners are given ample protection.

In discussing this afternoon the alleged attack of the negro trusty on the Mitchell County woman, which aroused the white population to the outbreak against negroes, Governor Morrison said he would investigate the law and consider the abolishment of the trusty system in the State prison camps altogether. The Mitchell County affair was not the first outrage charged against trusties in the county and State prison camps, and the Governor expressed keen doubt as to the wisdom of the system.

The outbreak of a mob in an anti-negro demonstration as the consequence of the lawless act of a negro trusty is not warranted, the Governor emphasized in announcing his determination to see that the rights of the colored man are protected. It was a matter of interesting comment here today that it was once said of Mitchell County that "Democrats and negroes would not be allowed to live there." Natural hostility to the negro has existed there through the years, and the act of one negro prisoner seems, from reports to Raleigh to have ignited the fire of hatred.

ASHEVILLE UNIT CALLED TO SCENE OF THE DISORDER

Morganton Engineers Also on Ground—Quiet Reigned Last Night.

CITIZENS TO OFFER A REWARD OF $500

Captain Jones, Two Officers and 63 Men Make a Record Departure.

With two companies of National Guard troops quartered in the town, arriving early yesterday evening, quiet reigned over the Spruce Pine area at 9:30 last night. Negro convicts, engaged in State highway construction work, moved to Plumtree, in Avery County, Thursday, will be returned and put to work this morning under protection from the troops.

Adjutant General J. VanB. Metts arrived at Spruce Pine in the early afternoon yesterday and held a conference with Judge J. Bis Ray, Mayor A. N. Fuller and other officials, as a result of which it was announced that the negroes would be returned today to continue work being done on the State highway from Spruce Pine to Ledger.

Orders to Captain Edward F. Jones to assemble Trop "F," North Carolina National Guard, in Asheville, was received from Assistant Adjutant General Gordon Smith yesterday around noon. The riot alarm sounded about 12:30, a special train ordered and at 4 o'clock the calvarymen, unmounted, boarded the train at Biltmore. The special went to Marion on the Southern and was transferred to the C. C. and O., arriving at Spruce Pine about 7:15 yesterday evening.

Company "B," 105th Engineers, from Morganton, arrived in Spruce Pine in automobile trucks about 30 minutes after the Asheville boys reached the town. The two companies are quarted in a warehouse and will be be on duty this morning when the negro convicts are put back to work.

A group of about 60 men left Spruce Pine yesterday morning, their destination unknown, but supposedly to search for the negro convict, John Goff, who escaped from the camp Wednesday morning and whose description is said to tally with that given by Mrs. Thomas, 60-year-old woman, who is alleged to have been attacked on the road near her home. No report had been received from the group at 9:30 last night.

Citizens of Spruce Pine yesterday afternoon had raised by subscription about $200 of a $500 reward they are to offer for the capture of the negro charged with the crime. Goff was sentenced from Wilmington and was carried to Spruce Pine with other convicts from the State prison.

No further trouble is expected, unless, perchance, the negro should be caught by some of the men searching for him, outside the range of protection of the troops. It is possible that violence might follow, in such a case.

The Asheville troops alone could easily handle any situation that might arise, Major S. M. Williams

al Guard instructor, said ght." Captain Jones is every a soldier and his men are well trained and in splendid shape, he said. With Captain Jones are First Lieutenant Charles G. Tennent, Second Lieutenant Eugene P. Coston and 63 men.

The troops assembled in record time and arrangements were completed with the Southern Railway for a special train on short notice. Accompanying the troops were Hubert Holloway, armed with a pencil, and Iril Sell, armed with a camera, who are now at Spruce Pine, representing The Citizen.

The orders received by Captain Smith from Assistant Adjutant General Gordon Smith yesterday follows:

"Assemble your full troop at once and proceed to Spruce Pine, Mitchell County, with the least possible delay, using quickest transportation which will be probably special train. Confer with railroad people at once in connection with getting special train as soon as possible. Upon arriving at Spruce Pine, report to Colonel Metts, who will arrive there about 2 o'clock today. This is urgent and we wish you to reach Spruce Pine as soon as possible. Acknowledge this wire at once and later wire me time of departure from Asheville. Take no horses at present, but carry automotic rifles and full equipment for men."

No orders had been received up to late yesterday afternoon by Captain W. V. Dorsey, of the 30th Signal Corps, at Canton. It is not considered likely that this unit will be called out.

GOVERNOR OPPOSES PRESENT PRISON TRUSTY SYSTEM

(BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS)

RALEIGH, N. C., Sept. 28.—Making known his intention to enforce absolutely the law of the State, and to restore order at Spruce Pine, where it is reported negroes were deported out of town in large numbers yesterday and today, following an attempted attack upon an aged white woman by a negro, Governor Morrison today ordered two companies of militia to proceed to Spruce Pine to afford protection to whites and negroes alike. Last night Governor Morrison, upon receiving reports of the deportations, ordered Adjutant-General J. Van B. Metts to proceed to Spruce Pine at once, the officer arriving there shortly after mid-day today.

Governor Morrison tonight reaffirmed his attitude, that the negroes employed in road construction work and others who have been driven from the town must be allowed to return to their work, even if it is necessary for General Metts to place guards about the road camps to protect the negroes from the citizens of the Spruce Pine locality.

Until further reports are received from General Metts, no other companies of National Guard will be ordered to Spruce Pine. It is believed that the two companies which arrived there this afternoon will be able to handle the situation.

Governor Morrison tonight announced that he will take steps to abolish the system now in effect of making trusties out of penitentiary convicts. He stated that re-

cently several of these trusties have committed crimes which could not have been committed if the freedom allowed trusties had not been given to them. The negro believed to have committed the outrage which precipitated the trouble at Spruce Pine is said to be a trusty of a convict camp working near the town. He has disappeared and all efforts of two posses to locate him have proved futile, according to word received

SEEK NEGRO ASSAILANT

Posses Search Gaston County For Negro Who Attacks White Girl

GASTONIA, N. C., Aug. 6.—Sheriff G. R. Rhyne and [illegible] and posses tonight, were scouring the countryside for miles in every direction in search of a negro who late today attacked a young white woman near her home two miles east of Gastonia. The young woman did not know her assailant, but described him as about 18 years old.

Lynchings—1923
Rape,—Alleged Attacks by Negroes.

Pennsylvania

1388

CHESTER PA TIMES
FEBRUARY 2, 1923

PHILA. JURY FREES CHESTER NEGRO ACCUSED BY WOMAN

Testimony of Alibi Witnesses Results in Acquittal of Barnes

"Verdict Is Outrage," Says Mrs. Diana Cohen, Philadelphia

John Barnes, alias Bond, of Chester, a Negro, charged with having attacked Mrs. Diana Cohen, 6114 De Lancey street, Philadelphia, in the cellar of her home, January 24, was acquitted by a jury in Judge Gordon's court in Philadelphia yesterday afternoon, after a trial lasting all day. The jury deliberated twenty-five minutes.

"That man should have been lynched," said Mrs. Cohen, after hearing the verdict. "I am positive he was the man who attacked me. This verdict does me a wrong."

Barnes' acquittal followed his testimony and that of several other witnesses, which convinced the jury that the defendant was working in a mine at St. Peters, Pa., the day of the attack.

Carried to the witness stand and collapsing three times, Mrs. Cohen had told of the attack, positively identifying Barnes as her assailant.

The courtroom was jammed with women, and tipstaves were powerless to silence angry mutterings and threats against the defendant as the woman, less than five feet in height and weighing but ninety pounds, testified in a whisper.

As women spectators pressed forward in the crowded aisles of the room and the whispered testimony of the swooning witness was given, Barnes, huge in stature and with shoulder muscles bulging through a ragged coat and torn shirt, crouched low in his chair.

"That man sitting there came to the back door while I was playing with my baby and he asked if I wanted the ashes removed from the cellar," Mrs. Cohen began. "I asked him to come back a little later.

"Later on in the morning he returned and was cleaning the basement when he called and asked if I would hold a bag while he shoveled the dirt into it.

"As I came down the steps he seized me by the throat and threw me to the floor. It was terrible. When I came to he was binding my wrists with wire, which was cutting into the bone.

"Then he put a rope around my neck. He said if I screamed he would hang me to a rafter and then go in the kitchen and cut my baby's throat.

"Then he tore off my wedding ring and a diamond ring and he took $12 from me. When I heard his footsteps in the kitchen over my head I thought only of my baby. God must have given me strength to tear my hands free from the wire and climbed out a cellar window. I believed he was murdering my baby."

Lynchings—1923
Rape—Alleged Attacks by Negroes.

1389 Tennessee

SEEK DOPE CRAZED ASSAILANT OF WOMAN

Commercial Appeal

Vanguard of Negro Suspects Arriving at Headquarters.

Memphis Press

FEELING RUNNING HIGH

1-4-23

Victim in Serious Condition Following Night of Horror in Power of Black Fiend in Riverside Park.

Police headquarters was a scene of feverish activity last night as officials, detectives, and uniformed men bent all efforts toward locating the negro fiend who kidnaped Mrs. Thos. P. Cooney, 43, wife of a government fleet employe, living at 1836 Farrington Street, Tuesday afternoon shortly after she had alighted from a Riverside Park street car, and subjected her to unbelievable tortures and outrages; before he threw her into the Mississippi River almost eight hours later and left her for dead, according to her statements made to police yesterday.

One negro suspect is held in jail, but police say that there is little likelihood that he will prove to be the man wanted.

The negro under arrest has a moustache and the description of the black given by Mrs. Cooney states that he has no hirsute adornments. Officers are chary with their information, but they say that they have tangible evidence to work on and that more arrests are to be expected before morning.

All throughout yesterday investigators were busy prying into the details of the story as told by the woman. At first some were skeptical and some may still be, but those on the spot who found the tracks, one of a woman and the other of a man, say that these evidences tally in the main with Mrs. Cooney's horrible tale. Inspector Griffin and others of his force state that they found in the park yesterday the woman's gloves and a pouch that she said contained $16. Bloodhound officers who went to the 90-foot cliff where Mrs. Cooney said the negro pushed her down into the Mississippi River say that marks of a body are plainly visible there and other traces where the cliff was climbed.

Almost the entire stock of negro pictures in the rogues gallery in charge of Lieut. Paul Waggener were taken to where Mrs. Cooney is still confined in bed at the home of Mrs. M. O. Riley, 1857 Farrington Street. Officers say that she partially identified a photograph in the collection as the man who put his hands over her eyes and dragged her into the shrubbery as she was walking toward her home. This negro has not been caught, but police say that they know approximately where he is and that he will in all likelihood be in custody in a few hours.

That the black who seized Mrs. Cooney is a drug addict and was under the influence of some powerful narcotic, possible cocaine, or heroin, is said by police to be a certainty. The woman stated that three times during the time he had her in his power he sniffed something from the back of his hand and made her put some of the whitish substance in her mouth. Mrs. Cooney said that it seared her lips and went to her brain like fire.

Detectives, including Inspector Griffin, went to Hollywood early last night, to interview the friends that Mrs. Cooney said she visited early Tuesday afternoon. The wife of the government employe said that she was returning from Hollywood when she was seized.

Again Describes Tortures.

Statements made yesterday to police and county officers varied but little from those made to Capt. Kehoe and Emergency Officers Emberton and Sherrill, shortly after the woman regained her liberty early yesterday morning.

She again told how the black seized her, soon after she got off the Riverside Park car line and dragged her into the nearby bushes.

"From then until about 12 o'clock, or maybe it was after, I was in his power and every conceivable indignity he forced upon me. He kicked me and beat me, and continually threatened me with death. He expressed in the vilest of language his contempt for the entire white race, and told what he intended to do to other white women," she said.

Detectives following the tracks through the park, said that the story, how the negro dragged the woman from clump to clump of shrubbery was apparently borne out. The steep cliff where the negro is said to have pushed Mrs. Cooney off and then followed down to thrust her into the water is a precipitous descent, and the sod is torn there, showing that some heavy object had been thrust from the top.

"He waded into the water himself to be sure that I drowned. I caught some submerged brush and lay with my face partly under water until I suppose he thought that I was dead," said Mrs. Cooney. "He went away and then I made my way up and to the home of Mr. Alexander."

It was about 1 o'clock early yesterday morning when the government employe's wife made her way to the home of T. J. Alexander, park policeman. Alexander called W. E. Parker, living at Hollywell and Swope, and the men took her to the home of Mrs. Riley.

Thomas Cooney, step-son of Mrs. Cooney, told a Commercial Appeal reporter yesterday afternoon that he went to the Riverside Park car line about 4 o'clock to meet Mrs. Cooney, and as he did not see her he went back about 8 o'clock.

"I thought that she was staying with friends," said the boy. "So I went home and got in bed. I didn't know what had happened until this morning."

Where Mrs. Cooney was attacked is a lonely spot and residents of the neighborhood yesterday said that they have discussed among themselves many times the possibility of a robbery, or assault in the section.

Assault Scene Dangerous.

"It is dangerous," said one of them. "I never let my wife and children go along the spot unless some one is with them."

That Mrs. Cooney feared robbery and took precautions to guard against it developed yesterday. The conductor of the Riverside Park car line on which Mrs. Cooney rode just before she was seized said late yesterday that the woman was the only passenger on his car and that he sat in the rear and talked to her. The subject turned to robberies, and Mrs. Cooney said that she had a diamond ring that she did not want to lose and she took the ring from her finger and put it in her mouth as she alighted from the trolley.

Mrs. Cooney told officers that she hid the ring in the park, and that she thought she would be able to locate it if she were in a condition to get to the spot.

There is no doubt, according to police, that the woman was kicked and bruised, for there are marks over her entire body. She was still in a highly hysterical state late yesterday.

The advance guard of negro suspects were beginning to arrive at the station. In the majority of the cases there was nothing tangible to connect them with the outrage, but the police force aroused by the story of the outrage committed upon Mrs. Cooney were making things "merry" for the shiftless negro element.

The city is aroused by the affair, and many threats were heard yesterday as to the negro's fate should he be captured. Police say that when they have the black that every precaution will be taken to protect him. Officials at the station agree that the tale told by Mrs. Cooney is one of the most horrible that they have ever heard, and that the list of things that she was forced to undergo would be unbelievable without corroborative evidence.

Mrs. Cooney's husband, who has been working at Friar Point, is expected to arrive here tonight.

SUSPECT IN CUSTODY OF MEMPHIS SLEUTHS

1-5-23

Memphis Press

Wounded Negro to Be Brought Here for Identification.

Commercial Appeal

BIG SANDY, Tenn., Jan. 4.—The negro suspect held here in connection with the assault recently on Mrs. T. P. Cooney, in Memphis, fails to tally with the description given by the victim, according to Lieut. Paul N. Waggener, Memphis detective officer, who arrived here tonight, accompanied by Detective Sergeant W. W. Carter.

This negro is as black as the Ace of Spades. Mrs. Cooney said her assailant was of ginger-cake color, or light brown.

Phyicians said the wounded negro probably would die, possibly within the next 24 hours. His pulse was at 125 at 9 o'clock tonight.

Lieutenant Waggener said the negro would not be taken back to Memphis tomorrow and no such plan had been considered.

"I will make several photographs of the negro," the lieutenant said, "and these will be returned to Memphis for inspection and scrutiny by Mrs. Cooney and others.

"Meanwhile the negro will be held in custody at Big Sandy, awaiting further development—if he lives. The doctor tells me he can not live. He said the wounds inflicted by the two citizens who captured the negro more than likely would prove fatal."

Armed with a state warrant charging criminal assault, three Memphis officers arrived at Big Sandy, Tenn., early last night to arrest John Cook, alias Coles, Memphis scar-faced negro, to bring him back to face Mrs. Thomas P. Cooney for identification to determine if he is the brute who attacked and mistreated her in Riverside Park 10 days ago.

The negro is in custody at Big Sandy, suffering from gunshot wounds in the shoulder and hip, inflicted by citizens who captured him Thursday night after a two-day chase.

The warrant was sworn out in Memphis at 11 o'clock yesterday morning by Detective Sergt. W. W. Carter before Justice Aaron Cohen and was served by Carter and Police Lieut. Paul Waggener upon their arrival. Deputy Sheriff M. W. Palmer also joined the officers at Big Sandy.

Fired upon when he disobeyed the command to halt, the negro was struck by a shotgun charge and a pistol bullet. He readily admits that he struck Ollie Green, negress, 733 Florida Street, and that he was fired upon at that time by two policemen.

The Memphis officers at Big Sandy at a late hour last night were to grill the negro in an effort to make him talk more about "the assault on the white woman," which he is said to have muttered in fear when arrested.

Trailed to River Bottoms.

Sheriff Perry and Inspector Griffin were awaiting telephonic word from the officers early today. The officers will leave Big Sandy today for the return to Memphis. Whether the negro will be brought back by automobile or train, authorities would not announce last night. It is improbable, it was said, that he will be brought back directly to this city.

The negro first made his appearance in Big Sandy last Tuesday night, declared R. C. Reddick, one of his captors, over the telephone last night. At that time loungers in the depot who saw the negro get off an L. & N. freight train realized immediately that he fitted fairly well the description of the assailant of Mrs. Cooney, which had been broadcasted in print by The Commercial Appeal.

Bloodhounds were obtained from Erin, Tenn., and the negro trailed into the bottoms of the Tennessee River, where all trace of him was lost.

Early Thursday night the same negro came out of the bottoms. He was muddy and apparently exhausted. He appeared at the home of George Hawkins and asked for a match. Under questioning by Hawkins the negro declared he was on his way to the river to catch a boat to Paducah.

His suspicions roused, Hawkins watched the negro leave, noting the fact that he was walking away from the river. Hawkins immediately notified his son-in-law, R. C. Reddick, living next door, and they set out in pursuit. They caught up with him a few hundred yards down the road.

Pursuers Open Fire.

The negro refused to heed the command to halt, but started to run, Reddick stated last night.

"We took no more chances," Reddick declared. "We fired and got him."

The negro is said to have expressed great anxiety over his arrest.

"He first begged us not to take him back to Memphis, but to kill him there," Reddick stated. "He mumbled something about telling all about the white woman if we'd kill him. We kept questioning him, but he refused to say any more about it.

"He readily admitted, however, that he had assaulted a negro woman and that police fired at him.

"We asked him point-blank if he was not the negro who attacked Mrs. Cooney, and while he refused to open his mouth he appeared to be greatly agitated over the question."

When first arrested the negro gave the name of John Coles. Then he said his name was John Cook. Records in Memphis at police headquarters corroborated the negro's statements about assaulting Ollie Green, negress, on Florida Street, and also in that Patrolmen Plexico and Appling fired at John Cook, negro, on Friday of last week when he knocked down the negress.

When arrested the negro's only weapon was a long-bladed knife.

If Mrs. Cooney fails to identify the negro the charge of criminal assault will be changed to assault and battery, with the negress as prosecutor, police said.

1389

SEARCH FOR NEGRO FIEND IS FRUITLESS

Commercial Appeal

Memphis Press

Police Fear Black May Attack Other Women.

1-5-23

The arrest of the negro who assaulted and abused Mrs. T. P. Cooney, 43, and kept her in his power from Tuesday afternoon until late that night, or early Wednesday morning, seemed no nearer early last night than when the search began immediately after the sickening affair was reported to the police early Wednesday. Officers assigned to the case and forces from the sheriff's office have worked unceasingly on the case, but so far their activities have failed to produce tangible results. Detectives admitted last night that the capture of the negro fiend, thought to be an "open and shut" case when the hunt began, seemed to be growing more and more difficult.

The black, who is said to have committed the outrages upon Mrs. Cooney, was a maniac or was under the influence of some powerful drug, and he will eventually be captured, according to police officers, if he remains in the neighborhood of the crime. Police fear that some other woman may fall into his hands and may not escape with her life as did Mrs. Cooney.

Investigation has revealed the tracks through the park, traces at the side of the bluff and other evidences that seem to bear out the story told by the victim. An ordinary cotton hook was found in the park shrubbery and Inspector Griffin says that he found another article that is expected to throw some light on the case, but he did not state what it was.

Mrs. Cooney, though still confined to her bed, is recovering, according to reports yesterday, and will be able to give officers valuable aids to their search as she improves.

The story told by the woman to officers was in brief that soon after she alighted from a Riverside Park street car Tuesday afternoon, that she was caught by a negro, dragged into some nearby shrubbery, kept in the black's power for almost eight hours, being subjected to terrible indignities during that time, finally being thrown into the Mississippi River.

NEGRO ADMITS COONEY ATTACK, PALMER SAYS

1-14-23
Commercial appeal

Makes Detailed Confession, According to Deputy.

NASHVILLE Tenn., Jan. 13.—John Cole, negro, arrested at Big Sandy, Tenn., has made a complete confession to the assault on Mrs. T. P. Cooney, in Riverside Park, Memphis, according to M. W. Palmer, deputy sheriff, who, tonight landed the negro behind the penitentiary walls.

Cole, according to Palmer, told where he spent the money that he obtained from Mrs. Cooney after the assault, and detailed his movements.

The wounds he received when he attempted to evade arrest at the hands of Benton County citizens, are now expected to prove fatal, as gangrene has set in one arm.

The negro who attacked Mrs. Cooney, according to her statements, forced her to suffer horrible indignities between the hours of 3:30 and 11:30 o'clock on the evening of Jan. 2.

Lynchings—1923

Texas.

1390

Rape—Alleged Attacks by Negroes.

Officers Seek Negro Who Attacked Girl

Associated Press Report.

FORT WORTH, Texas, Jan. 19.—Tarrant county officers are still searching the countryside for the negro, who early Thursday night made an attack on a young white woman walking in the yard of her home at Hodge, but no trace of the black has been found.

Because of the darkness the young lady was unable to distinguish the features of the negro, who became frightened and fled when she screamed. He was not seen by members of the family who were in the house a few yards away.

The girl, daughter of a railroad man at Hodge, was uninjured except for a few minor bruises.

Negro Held for Criminal Assault, Indicted by Jury

Houston Post Special.

DALLAS, Texas, Feb. 3.—Burrell Warren, negro, was indicted by the Dallas county grand jury today for attempted criminal assault in connection with the attack at Lancaster, earlier in the week on a white woman of Dallas.

The jury in a separate report to the court, recommended that the negro be tried on a lunacy charge before he is tried for the attack.

INVESTIGATION TO BEGIN THURSDAY

DAILY AS THEY VENUE

FEBRUARY 1, 1923

CITIZENS URGE LAW ENFORCEMENT AND ASK SPEEDY TRIAL OF MAN HELD.

Burrell Warren, 20-year-old negro, is in custody charged with attempted criminal assault on Mrs. N. Parker Sneed of Dallas at Lancaster Wednesday morning. The case will go to the grand jury Thursday.

The attack occurred at about 9:30 o'clock Wednesday morning and in less than ten minutes the accused negro was in custody and on his way to the Dallas County jail here, where he is now being held.

Prominet Lancaster people called a mass meeting where, after the citizens were urged to keep cool and allow the law to take its course, resolutions calling on the county law enforcement authorities for a speedy trial for the negro were adopted. The leaders then urged the men, who numbered more than 300, to return to their homes and business and let the law act.

Mrs. Sneed said she was first seized by the negro while on the front gallery of the home of Clyde Lavender, owner and manager of the Lancaster Telephone Company. She said she turned and demanded, "What do you want, negro?" With an oath, according to the statement of Mrs. Sneed, the negro stated his purpose and, threatening her, demanded silence.

Woman Seized and Choked.

Mrs. Sneed said she broke from his grasp and ran into the front door of the Lavender home, screaming for aid. She closed the door behind her, and her pursuer jerked it open.

"I ran toward the kitchen, calling for help, but the negro kept following, reaching for me," Mrs. Sneed declared.

"I reached the kitchen and pulled the door shut, but he pulled it open. Mrs. Lavender was there, and she and I made a dash for the back yard. Mrs. Lavender got out, but as I got to the door I was seized again and choked. I broke away again and staggered out the back door, down the steps into the yard, where I again was seized.

"He picked me up and tried to drag me back into the house. I was trying to fight him off and Mrs. Lavender was screaming and hitting him with a broom."

Leonard Bryson, who lives across the street from the Lavenders, was attracted by the screams. He ran to the aid of the women, and the negro released his hold on Mrs. Sneed and began attacking Mr. Bryson. He struck Mr. Bryson, knocking him to the ground.

Mrs. Lavender said she escaped his clutches, and as Mr. Bryson recovered the negro walked through the gate, and after going across the street suddenly turned and ran north.

Mrs. Sneed ran to the home of the Rev. Mr. Cole, Baptist minister, and fainted after calling for Mrs. Cole to give an alarm. Mrs. Cole notified the telephone company and an operator caused the electric fire siren to be sounded, attracting residents to the town square.

Negro Quickly Captured.

Learning of the attempted attack the men quickly obtained arms and started in pursuit.

However, the negro had been overtaken a few blocks away by Cecil Lowery, Constable. City Marshal Hutch McCurdy placed them in an automobile and before the town was thoroughly aroused the negro was being brought to Dallas.

Warren is said to have followed Mrs. Sneed from his home, where she had taken some laundry to be washed by Effie Warren, the negro's mother.

Mrs. Sneed sustained finger prints on her throat, a large welt on the left side of the forehead where she was struck and bruises and scratches on both arms to her elbows.

Both she and Mrs. Lavender are in a highly nervous condition and under the care of doctors.

Following the mass meeting at 1:30 o'clock in the I. O. O. F. Hall, the town soon resumed its usual appearance.

Resolutions warning lawbreakers, "both black and white," to give Lancaster wide berth were adopted at the meeting.

M. M. Miller, a resident of the community for forty years, told 300 men assembled that the community "will not stand for conditions where a man is afraid to leave his women folks alone at home for fear they will be attacked by black brutes."

Speedy Trial Promised.

A vigilance committee with the Rev. T. J. Beckham, pastor of the Lancaster Methodist Church, as chairman, was named to ask county officials for a speedy trial for Warren.

District Attorney Cox agreed to turn over his evidence to the grand jury Thursday and Judge Felix D. Robertson set Monday as the day for the trial.

Mrs. Sneed is the sister of Tom M. Parker, head of a film house in Dallas. She has been visiting in Lancaster for a week with the Lavender family. She has another brother, W. A. Parker of Mexico.

For a short time Wednesday morning following the attack armed men moved about Lancaster streets. Men gathered at the mass meeting also were armed with pistols.

Resolutions Adopted.

The following resolutions were adopted at the mass meeting:

"Whereas, our community has been the scene of a most vicious attack on our womanhood, and,

"Whereas, it is the spirit of our community to be law abiding at all times and under all circumstances, and,

"Whereas, we feel that the laws of our State are fully adequate to punish the guilty offenders of all crimes, and,

"Whereas, we feel that in mass meeting assembled, the real, cool sentiment of a community can be measured, and,

"Whereas, we, as citizens of the Lancaster community desire to go on record as being law abiding and assisting in every possible way in the enforcement of law,

"Therefore, be it resolved, that we petition the honorable Judges, the honorable grand jury, that immediate legal steps be taken to prosecute to the limit this heinous crime and mete out the deserved punishment for same, and,

"Be it further resolved, that the chairman of this meeting be instructed to appoint a committee of ten representative citizens of this community to present this petition to the above named officials and that this committee also assist in any desired manner in bringing to a speedy prosecution this criminal."

The above resolutions were presented at a mass meeting of the citizens of Lancaster presided over by S. L. Randlett as chairman, with Lester White acting as secretary.

Acting on instructions of the resolutions the following committee was appointed to present the resolutions as instructed:

The Rev. T. J. Beckum, chairman; H. E. Rawlins, C. G. Lowrey, B. E. White, W. Y. Perry, Lester White, S. L. Randlett, J. M. Billingsly, W. G. Howell, and F. B. McCurdy.

Pledge Law Enforcement.

"Whereas, Lancaster is and has been a law abiding community composed of a law abiding citizenship, and,

"Whereas. it is the predominant spirit of the citizenship that Lancaster remain a law abiding, Christian community,

"Therefore, be it resolved, that we publish to the world through the press that all criminals, either white or black, and especially the bootleggers, gamblers and Sabbath desecrating fraternity are unwelcome in Lancaster and will be promptly, swiftly and surely prosecuted should they invade the Lancaster community, and,

"Be it further resolved, that we, the citizens of Lancaster in mass meeting assembled pledge our support to the constituted authorites in the enforcement of all law.

"This is to certify that the above is a true copy of resolutions adopted by the mass meeting assembled.

"LESTER WHITE,

"Secretary of the mass meeting.

Man Sentenced To Die For Rape, Gets New Trial

New Evidence of White Escort to Alleged Attacked Woman, Causes Higher Court to Decide for New Trial.

NEW YORK, June 28.—The Houston, Texas, Branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People reports that the State Court of Criminal Appeals has reversed a lower court, which had sentenced Luther Collins to be hanged on a charge of rape. The higher court has ruled that new evidence should be admitted at the retrial, which occurs in September. The Houston branch, which has spent about $1,200 in defense of the man, hopes that he can be proved to have been absolutely innocent of the crime he was charged with.

The new evidence to be offered includes affidavits by the white man accompanying the woman attacked, stating that Luther Collins was not the assailant. Other affidavits establish the following facts: That the woman's description of her assailant does not tally with Luther Collins; that she told a woman investigator that she was not sure of her identification, but intended to stick to her story since she had begun; that another man, seen loitering near the scene of the crime, was of different height and build than Collins; and that Collins was in his rooming house on the evening of the alleged assault.

Lynchings—1923
Rape,—Alleged Attacks by Negroes.

Texas.

1409

GIRL ARRESTED IN SLAYING OF FIANCE

1/29/23 Chicago Ill.

Said Negro Killed Him Before Assaulting Her.

The Chicago Day Book

WACO, Texas, Jan. 25.—The arrest of Miss Naomi Boucher and her brothers Horace and Bernard Boucher in connection with the murder of Grady Skipworth two months ago climaxes one of the most sensational mysteries that has confronted Texas rangers in years. The charges against the girl and her brothers were sworn out by L. A. Skipworth, a contractor and father of the slain youth.

Young Skipworth was Miss Boucher's fiance. According to the story she told, they were driving in Skipworth's automobile near Lovers' Leap a few miles from Waco when a negro stepped out into the road, shot Skipworth dead without warning and, ordering her from the car at the point of a revolver, assaulted her. When she gained consciousness at dawn she found herself at the bottom of a thirty-foot cliff, her fiance's mangled body lying a few feet away.

So intense was the resentment of the white population that lynching parties set out to find the negro. One, Ivory Clay, was arrested and charged with murder. The evidence against him was based entirely on Miss Boucher's identification. He is still in jail awaiting trial.

The elder Skipworth, dissatisfied with the evidence, took a hand in the investigation. A few days ago County Attorney Farmer received an anonymous note in a woman's handwriting advising the arrest of Miss Boucher. Skipworth then swore out a warrant.

NEGRO SPIRITED AWAY

Captured After Attempted Attack On Girl, Mobbed.

The Commercial Appeal

4/25/23 +

PALESTINE, Texas, April 24.—A negro, charged with attempting to attack a 14-year-old girl at a lonely spot south of Palestine late yesterday was captured early today and spirited away by officers. More than a thousand persons engaged in the man-hunt last night.

The girl was on her way from school yesterday when a negro grabbed her. A negress, hearing the girl screaming, hurried to her aid and the assailant fled.

Lynchings — 1923
Rapes by Whites.

Alabama.

1447

ARREST AT GIRARD

Girl's Father Makes Charge Against Man

(Special to The Advertiser)

GIRARD, ALA., Jan. 26.—M. G. Strickland is being held in the city jail on the charge of attempt to attack a young woman last night. According to Chief of Police J. M. Golden, Strickland was a boarder at the home of the woman and the complaint was made by her father.

Members of the girl's family state that at the time the girl left her home to go to the mail box to get the mail Fincher also left the house, going in the same general direction by a parallel road.

The girl is said to have met and talked to another one of her neighbors between her home and the mail box and to have stated to the neighbor that Fincher had frightened her by hiding behind a tree as she came through a skirt of woods between her home and the point she met the other neighbor.

Excitement is running high in the Lincoln neighborhood.

Web of Evidence Draws Tighter In Brutal Death

Feeling Runs High in Alabama City as Fincher Is Held for Murder Trial.

Anniston, Ala., February 9.—(Special.)—A strong web of circumstantial evidence is being weaved around Gordon Fincher, married white man, who is in the Talladega county jail following the brutal murder of a pretty 16-year-old girl of Lincoln. Fincher's arrest was effected by Officers M. C. Baxter and J. L. Green.

Finding of bloodstains on his pocket knife and shotgun, the fact that the clothing he was accustomed to wear and which he is said to have worn on the day the girl met her brutal death in the woods nearly in sight of her home are missing, and confused and changeable story told by the prisoner have all combined to convince the officers who are working on the case that they have arrested the man who committed the fiendish crime by first assaulting the young girl and cutting her head nearly off with a knife.

Anniston officers who visited the scene of the crime and assisted the Talladega county officers in their investigations described the crime as one of the most brutal in the history of Talladega county. Six distinct strokes with a knife had been made on the throat of the girl after she had been outraged, according to the officers, three of the wounds being on the right side of the neck and three on the left. It is believed that any one would have produced her death.

Fincher claimed at the time of his arrest that the blood stains on his knife and gun came from hogs, which he had killed several days before but could not explain why he was wearing different clothing the day following the crime. He admitted talking to the young girl a short time before she was killed.

BAR PUBLIC FROM ASSAULT HEARING

Only Court Officials to Hear Trial of Taxi Driver

BIRMINGHAM, ALA., April 24.—(Special to The Advertiser.)—Under the provision in section 169, Criminal Code of Alabama, permitting the court to exclude the general public from trials of cases where charges of criminal assault, similar to those preferred against Jack O. Bougus, taxi driver, are involved, the general public will not be allowed to attend the trial of Bougus, charged with criminal assault on an eighteen year old girl, which will be heard before Judge Harrington P. Heflin in circuit court Monday, according to Solicitor Jim Davis, Tuesday morning.

Bougus is charged with having taken the girl to North Birmingham, where he assaulted her, under the pretense that he was driving her to the Salvation Army Home, where she was to become confined in the maternity home. Due to some mistake, no one was at the Terminal Station to meet the girl, who came to Birmingham from Tennessee, when she arrived at 2 o'clock in the morning. She accepted Bougus' offer to drive her to the home for 75 cents. It it charged that he immediately drove to North Birmingham. Bougus will plead insanity, it is said.

The trial of Will Gibson, negro, indicted by the grand jury on two charges of assaulting white women and one charge of robbery, will also be heard next week. He pleaded insanity when arraigned before Judge Dan A. Green Saturday morning.

SORDID STORY IN BIRMINGHAM CASE

Taxi Driver Charged With Luring Suffering Woman From Station

BIRMINGHAM, ALA., June 19.—(Special to The Advertiser.)—The sordid story of a country lass from the hills of Tennessee, lured from a railroad station by a man posing as a taxi chauffeur seeking a fare and who in turned assaulted her, overcoming her in a weakened condition and unable to resist, was recounted Tuesday morning by Miss Minnie Faust, who was the first state witness in the trial of Jack Bougus, former chauffeur for a local taxi company, whose trial on a charge of criminal assault opened before Judge William E. Fort of the criminal division of the circuit court.

Miss Faust has been critically ill for months, following the birth of her child, which the state contends was greatly endangered by Bougus' alleged assault a short while before, and was scarcely able to leave her bed. She appeared weak and pale and testified with some difficulty.

She was closely cross-examined by Attorney Louis Prosch, representing the defendant, who apparently is laying a predicate for an attack on her character.

Bougus was arrested late in April, following complaint of Miss Faust that she had been brutally attacked by the chauffeur. According to her story, she had made arrangements with local Salvation Army authorities to be confined in the local maternity home. Through a misunderstanding, when she arrived at 2 o'clock in the morning no one was at the station to meet her and while alone in the waiting room, Bougus accosted her and offered to drive to the home for a fee of 50 cents. She accepted the offer, she said. Instead, however, Bougas drove her to a lonely road north of Birmingham, according to her testimony where the attack occurred.

Two weeks after the alleged assault the child was born and she has been confined to bed until the last few days.

Attorney Ralph Quinn, assisted by Assistant Solicitor Willard Drake, is prosecuting the case.

Lynchings—1923
Rapes by Whites.

Colorado

1448

NEGRO.

(By Associated Negro Press.)

Pueblo, Col., Jan. 4.—Orville Carr, arrested here recently and charged with an assault on a white woman, is not a Negro, but a white moron who is now suspected of being the creature who has been molesting women in lonely thoroughfares for several weeks past. Wowen who have been the victims of these attempted attacks are to be brought to the suspect in the hope that he will be identified as the culprit. Negroes here have been much exorcised over the efforts to connect the race with this latest outrage on public decency.

Orville Carr Not A Negro

Pueblo, Colo. Jan 1—Orville Carr, arrested here recently and charged with an assault on a white woman, is not a Negro but a white moron who is now suspected of being the creature who has been molesting women in lonely thoroughfares for several weeks past Women who have been the victims of these attempted attacks are to be brot to the suspec in the hope that he will be identified as the culprit. Negroes here have been much exercised over the effort to connect the race with this latest outrage on public decency.

Lynchings—1923.
Rapes by Whites.

Connecticut.

1449

BRIDGEPORT WHITES BLACKED FACES AND COMMITTED ASSAULT

Bridgeport, Conn.—Four young white men are being held in the county jail charged with assault on a 16-year-old white girl. The men blacked their faces in an effort to make it appear that the crime was committed by Negroes, but their scheme failed. They were promptly apprehended and are being held in $10,000 mail to await action of the grand jury.

Five other Bridgeport men, all white, are in jail with similar charges against them.

The attempt to pass themselves off as Negroes gives rise to the thought that in many cases the race has had to suffer for criminal acts committed by whites under similar circumstances.

Hartford Courant
12-5-23
New York Ny

Lynchings—1923.
Rapes by Whites.

General.

1450

THE WOMEN LYNCHED THE WHITE LIBERTINE

SOMETIMES the white libertine tempts the wrong black woman; not often, just sometimes.

Somebody in Texas has sent us a copy of the Fayette County Record, which contains Judge Jeffrey's charge to the Grand Jury to investigate a recent lynching of a white man supposed to be one Schulenburg, a rich and respectable citizen. But the judge does not go into details as to names and time and place. He just insists that the lynching must be proved and the guilty parties brought to justice. Negro World - 12-29-23

The facts appear to be, as somebody somewhere in Texas writes The Negro World, in sending a copy of the Record, that a rich white man in Fayette County had a way of forcing Negro girls to become his victims. He singled out one who, to escape him, made an appointment to meet him in a forest in the outskirts of the city. Saith the chronicler: "He did so alone. When he arrived there colored women met him and presented him with the rope and swung him up, leaving a note, saying, 'The tide has turned. We stand for the moralization of colored womanhood. Beware, men of other races who prey upon our women!'" New York

If the Negro women of Fayette County did lynch the white libertine for insulting one of their number, they have done more to protect their honor than any Negro man has done in Fayette County or the State of Texas. Down in Birmingham, Alabama, some twenty-four white men and Negro women have been mysteriously murdered or maimed, when caught together in the dark, and the police have been baffled in their efforts to catch the ax wielder, while the Negro newspapers of Birmingham are vehement in their disbelief that Negro, or Negroes, have been guilty of the ax wielding. Anyhow, it has become very dangerous for a black woman to be caught with a white man in the dark in Birmingham. If there can't be any honorable association of whites and blacks in the light there should be no toleration of their associating together in the dark. That's all

Lynchings—1923
Rapes by Whites

Georgia

1451

Charge Assault on Little Girl; Three Held as Accomplices

Atlanta Constitution

Griffin, Ga., January 17.—(Special.)—Bryant Bateman, white youth, is held without bond in the Spalding county jail on a charge of criminal assault. The alleged victim is a 14-year-old girl, whose condition, according to physicians, is serious.

Jeiter Huckaby and Garvin Irvin, young white boys, have been released under heavy bonds as accomplices. Inez Martin, aged 20, is held without bond. She also is held as an accomplice.

The Spalding county grand jury is in session here this week, and is expected to take action in the case.

According to the story told the officers, Inez Martin is said to have lured the younger girl from the house, into an automobile with the three boys. They then drove into the woods, it is said, where the alleged attack on the little girl took place.

The party is said to have spent two days and two nights in the woods together, without food.

White Man Is Shot Down By Negro Race Woman

Pittsburgh, Pa.

ATLANTA, Ga., Sept. 27.—T. M. Merritts, a white man, was taken to the Grady hospital Saturday night, suffering from a badly shattered left arm, said to have been the result of a bullet wound inflicted by Mrs. Ada White. 9-29-23

The man, with his brother, went to the home of Mrs. White, while under the influence of liquor, and the men are alleged to have insulted her.

Lynchings—1923.
Rapes by Whites.

Illinois.

1452

CYRUS ADLER ACCUSED BY GIRL, AGED 15

Chicago Tribune

Policeman's Pistol Halts Crowd.

7/23/23

(Picture on back page.)

Police last night guarded the home of Max Adler, vice president of Sears, Roebuck & Co., at 4939 Greenwood avenue, to prevent further demonstrations against Cyrus Adler, 24 year old son of the millionaire. They were placed there following the narrow escape Saturday night of young Adler from the hands of angry relatives of a 15 year old girl he was accused of attacking, and a mob of sympathizers.

The fact that Adler was alive, it was said by many persons who witnessed the exciting chase over three blocks, was due to the prompt action of Policeman Redman P. Gibbons of the Hyde Park police station, who drew his revolver and held the crowd at bay until the arrival of reinforcements.

Protects Self with Gun.

Young Adler a few minutes before had saved himself from the girl's relatives by backing out of the home of Mrs. Julia Lieberman, 4644 St. Lawrence avenue, as he held them at bay with a revolver. When he once got to the street he sped away toward 47th street, where he fell into the hands of the policeman who was on his way home from work.

The young man was taken to the Wabash avenue police station under guard and placed in a cell on charges preferred by Miss Sylvia Wager, young schoolgirl from Milwaukee, visiting her aunt, Mrs. Lieberman. He was also booked on charges of carrying concealed weapons and contributing to the delinquency of a minor. He was released on bonds.

What Led Up to It.

When the storm of emotion against Adler had subsided the details of the cause of the trouble were learned. Adler told the police of his affair with the girl, it was said, but denied he had done anything other than take a "friendly ride to the forest preserve with her."

With the arrival of his father and Judge Daniel P. Trude at the station all sources of information were immediately cut off, and it was only with difficulty that the entire story was learned. Young Adler was taken home by his father after his bonds had been signed by Judge Trude. Fearing other attempts against his son, the father requested police protection.

According to Policeman Gibbons and a statement made by the Wager girl the affair began last Wednesday afternoon. Adler was driving in his father's automobile with a friend, Sanders Cohn. They espied the Wager girl and a friend, Miss Elma Eckhaus, 4723 Forrestville avenue, on the curb at Forrestville avenue and 47th street.

Invite Them to Ride.

An invitation to ride was accepted by the girls, and the two couples drove out to 83d street and Jeffery avenue where the car was stopped, it was said. Cohn and Miss Eckhaus got out of the car and walked down the street. They returned a short time later and found Miss Wager in tears. They did not question her, however, and the party returned to the home of the Wager girl's aunt, where she and her companion got out.

Adler Goes Armed.

Saturday afternoon, according to the police, Adler called the Lieberman residence and asked to speak to Miss Wager. Mrs. Lieberman replied that the girl could not talk just then, but invited the young man over. He feared that things were not all right, he said, and took the revolver with him.

When he entered the home he noticed a number of other persons gathered in a front room. As he passed through the door one woman shouted: "You are the man who was out with little Sylvia the other day?"

Adler admitted he was. Immediately he was beset by the men and women in the room. Drawing his revolver, he backed out of the house. The crowd followed and the chase began. Adler turned into 47th street and started west, followed by the cries of "moron," "get him," and "kill him."

Crowd Takes Up Chase.

A crowd in the street heard the cries and took up the chase. Seeing Policeman Gibbons on the corner, Adler rushed to him shouting for protection. Gibbons pushed the man against the wall of a building and drew his revolver. He held the crowd off until the arrival of the patrol wagon from the Wabash avenue station.

Adler will be arraigned in the Englewood police court this morning on three charges—carrying concealed weapons, contributing to the delinquency of a minor, and rape. Miss Wager's relatives said last night that they would press the charge of rape against Adler.

Youth Released Pittsburgh Race Riot Is Feared

Pittsburgh Sunday Post

WAUKEGAN, Ill., July 19.—The northwset section of this city was under heavy police guard here Monday as the result of murmurings that race riot was not improbable.

The action of the police followed the release of Eugene Cooper, an 18-year-old youth, who had been charged with having attacked a 12-year-old white girl.

7-21-23

The police investigated the charge and found that the girl, out with a white companion, invented the story to save her from chastisement, it is alleged.

MYRTLE SMITH

1452

When Myrtle Smith, a 15 year-old girl and a stranger to Chicago, stepped to the pier from a boat from Benton Harbor, she was accosted by a white man wearing brass buttons, whom she mistook to be an officer of the law. She told the man she was a stranger here and he took her to his room on the North Side and despoiled her.

Chicago Tribune 7/12/23

After a positive indentification by the girl, and a partial admission by the man himself, he was held for indictment. We now learn that the grand jury has failed to find a true bill. Witnesses could not be found, says the State's Attorney.

Who wanted to find the witnesses? Nobody. Who tried to find the witnesses? Nobody. The girl was black, the man was white. Their difference in complexion also changed the complexion of the desire to bring in the missing witnesses.

Lynchings—1923.
Rapes by Whites.

Kentucky.

1453

White Man Attempted To Attack Sick Woman

LOUISVILLE, Ky., Dec. 27.—The white man alleged to have represented himself as an insurance collector and called upon Mrs. Bertha Hays, while she lay sick, and to have made improper advances toward her, was discovered to be John Tigh, employed by the Broadway Motor Sales. He will be tried as soon as Mrs. Hays is well enough to appear in court.

Lynchings—1923.
Rapes,—by Whites.

Long Island.

1454

LYNCHING FEARED, PRISONER VETERAN GETS JAIL HEARING

N Y C EVE WORLD
MARCH 24, 1923

Rivernead Authorities Take Precautions to Protect Balyga, Charged With Assault.

RIVERHEAD, L. I., March 24.—Fearful lest some of the excited citizens of this town attempt to attack Stanley Balyga, war veteran, charged with having been responsible for an attack on eighteen-year-old Helen Hojenski here last night, the prisoner will be given a hearing in the jail to-day instead of at the offices of Justice of the Peace Robert Burnside. Assistant District Attorney George W. Hildreth said the authorities would take no chances.

There was some talk of lynching the prisoner, but Sheriff Amza W. Biggs and his deputies kept a close watch on the jail, but no extra guard was posted.

It was learned to-day that Balyga was in love with the Hojenski girl, but her father had objected.

The prisoner's shoes were removed by the Sheriff and taken to the spot where the assault took place. Police say they fitted into imprints in the soft earth. Balyga continues to deny that he committed the assault despite the fact that the girl has identified him.

Among the prisoner's effects was found a French citation cord, such as is worn by overseas heroes.

Miss Hojenski's eyes are puffed and blackened and her face is cut. She is also suffering from shock.

Lynchings—1923
Rapes by Whites.

Maryland.

1446

"No Closed Season in Hunting Colored Women."

afro american

Declares Mr. Clement Wood in an article in another column this week. Mr. Wood, a white author, by the way, was referring to the South. He himself comes from Alabama, and several striking cases came under his observation, which he details at some length.

Baltimore

Baltimore is not altogether South, but we had last week the most illuminating case of Jesse Williams, white, who entered the beauty parlor of a prominent colored hairdresser and tried to drag her to his automobile. The strangest part of all is the gravity of Williams' crime in the eyes of the law. He was fined $10 for his serious attack upon the hairdresser, who is colored, and $10 for being drunk while driving his car.

WOMAN ASSAULTED BY A WHITE MAN

Pulled From Shop When She Refuses To Enter Waiting Car

WAS SECOND ATTEMPT

Jesse Williams Gets Off With Only $10 Fine in N. W. Stationhouse

Baltimore Md.
1-12-23
afro american

For taking hold of Mrs. Grace Moore, 1715 Drud Hill Avenue, and trying to force her to enter an automobile in front of her beauty parlor on Stricker street, Jesse W. Williams, white, 115 W. Woodland street, Williams entered the beauty Magistrate Ranft in the Northwestern Police Station Friday and held for the Traffic Court where he was fined $100 and costs for operating a machine while under the influence of whiskey.

According to the testimony of Mrs. Moore and corroborated by Mrs. Mary Smith, 1100 N. Mount street, Williams entered he beauty parlor and asked the former to accompany him to his home and massage his mother. When she refused to do this he asked her to manicure his nails. When she refused this on the grounds that she treats only women, he became obstreperous attempted to pull her towards his machine.

She then jerked herself free and called for help when he fled from the place and attempted to drive away in his machine. He was unable however, to get his machine started before the arrival of the police. He was arrested and arrainged on complaint of Mrs. Moore.

This was Williams' second attempt to force his attentions upon Mrs. Moore. A week before she pushed him out of her doorway, when he insisted on coming in.

At the Traffic Court officers testified that when they arrived Williams was under the influence of whiskey attempting to drive away.

But for the timely arrival of the police, a fastly gathering crowd of men and boys in the neighborhood of the crime, having learned of the assault on Mrs. Moore, might have inflicted more summary punishment on the assailant.

JURY INDICTS ALLEGED CAREY STREET RAPIST

William Creech, White, Held Without Bail for Rape Upon 13-Year-Old Child

1-19-23

DOCTOR MADE STATEMENT

Baltimore Md.

Says Examination Shows Child Was Brutally Assaulted and Made Ill

afro american

William Creech, white, 312 N. Carey street, who on Wednesday, January 10th, is alleged to have criminally assaulted 13-year-old Josephine Williams, while she was working for him in his home, was indicted by the Grand Jury this week, and awaits trial in the Criminal Court for rape.

Evidence at the hearing showed that Creech considered all girls working for him natural prey and that when the child repulsed him he not only brutally assaulted her behind locked doors in his home, but threatened to kill her if she made any outcry or divulge what had happened.

According to a story told a reporter for this paper by Mrs. Williams, mother of the child, Josephine went to work at the Creech home on December 26th. A few days later he made advances, and when repulsed told her that girls who worked for him in the past had submitted to his demands. On January 10th, when other members of the family were absent, he locked the doors and forced her into submission, telling her that he would kill her if she told what had happened.

When Josephine went home she stated to her mother that she was ill and that she did not want to go back to the Creech home again. It was not until the mother had taken the child to Dr. W. F. Norville, 119 N. Carrolton avenue, whose examination showed a brutal assault, that she told the full story of her treatment by Creech. At this time her condition had made it almost impossible for her to walk.

Although denying the charge Creech, who is a married man, is being held without bail for court action.

When called to the attention of the State's Attorney's office by a representative of this paper, it was stated that while the matter had not yet been gone fully into it would be given the most vigorous prosecution.

JURY INDICTS A WHITE MAN ON A HEINOUS CHARGE.

Louisville News
Louisville, Ky.
2-10-23

Held Without Bail; Girl, 13, Was Shockingly Abused; Trial On; State Will Vigorously Prosecute.

Baltimore, Md., Feb. 3.—William Creech, white, 312 North Carey street, who on Wednesday, Jan. 10, is alleged to have criminally, assaulted 13-year-old Josephine Williams, while she was working for him in his home, was indicted by the grand jury last week, and awaits trial in the Criminal Court for rape.

Evidence at the hearing showed that when the child repulsed him he not only brutally assaulted her behind locked doors in his home, but threatened to kill her if she made any outcry or divulged what had happened.

It was not until the mother had taken the chhild to Dr. W. F. Norville, 119 North Carrolton avenue, whose examination showed a brutal assault, that she told the full story of her treatment by Creech. At this time her condition had made it almost impossible for her to walk.

Although denying the charge, Creech, who is a married man, is being held without bail for court action.

The case is set for early trial. The state's attorney stated that when the evidence in the case has been gone into fully it would be given the most vigorous prosecutic

GETS FIFTEEN YEARS ON GIRL'S CHARGE

New York
(Preston News Service)

BALTIMORE, Md., April 2.—Birch Bolling, who was convicted last Wednesday of felonious assault on Hazel Morgan, a 13-year-old colored girl, was sentenced by Judge Stanton to 15 years in the State Penitentiary. The case was tried without a jury.

4-4-23

The girl testified that the crime was committed in Bolling's home in Leslie street. The evidence showed that Bolling met the child in a department store and persuaded her to accompany him to his house.

"NO CLOSED SEASON IN HUNTING COLORED WOMEN"

Declares Mr. Clement Wood, a white author, by the way who was referring to the South. He himself comes from Alabama, and several striking cases came under his observation, which he details at some length.

Wilmington Advocate Wilmington Del.

Baltimore is not altogether South, but we had last week the most illuminating case of Jesse Williams, white, who entered the beauty parlor of a prominent colored hairdresser and tried to drag her to his automobile. The strangest part of all is the gravity of Williams' crime in the eyes of the law. He was fined $10 for his serious attack upon the hairdresser, who is colored, and $100 for being drunk while driving his car.—Baltimore Afro-American.

GETS 15 YEARS ON GIRL'S CHARGE.

(Preston News Service)

Baltimore, Md., April 13.—Birch Bolling, who was convicted last Wednesday of felonious assault on Hazel Morgan, a 13 year old Colored girl, was sentenced by Judge Stanton to 15 years in the State penitentiary. The case was tried without a jury.

Wilmington Advocate Wilmington Del.
4-13-23

The girl testified that the crime was committed in Bolling's home in Leslie street. The evidence showed that Bolling met the child in a department store and persuaded her to accompany him to his house.

THREE MEN HELD IN ASSAULT CASES

Afro-American

One Victim an Imbecile; One Aged 10 and the Other 18 Years

Baltimore, Md.

Three men were arrested this week and are being held for the action of the Grand Jury charged with criminally assaulting three girls, one an imbecile, in various parts of the city this week. 8-10-23

Walter Wisher, 1234 Orleans, was arrested by officers of the Central Police District at the instigation of Mrs. Laura Jenkins, 211 Colvin St., who charged him with abusing Ida Johnson, an imbecile. He was held without bail.

Bellam King, 685 Josephine St., will face a charge of rape before the Grand Jury. He was arrested by Officer Cadden of the Western Police District when 8-year-old Delmar Smith, 217 Pine Street, charged him with abusing her while alone at her home.

Helen English, age 10, 305 Pearl Street, told the magistrate in the Western Police District that Robert Hachen, 34, 831 Sarah Ann Street, criminally abused her on July 26. He is being held for the action of the Grand Jury without bail.

WHITE AUTOIST SEIZES WOMAN IN WOODS

ITALIAN CAUGHT

Louis Masci, 47, and Italian builder, was arrested Thursday by detectives and held for a hearing at 3 o'clock at Northern Police Station. He is said to have admitted holding up Mrs. Robinson last Monday, and making improper advances, also he is said to have admitted the attack three days later.



Mrs. Robinson

Enroute to work 7 o'clock Monday morning, while it was still dark, Ethel Robinson, 1511 Mosher St., was attacked by an unknown white autoist, and her clothing torn from her body before she was able to free herself from his embrace and flee. 8-14-23

The attempted rape occured on Hamilton Road and about one half of a mile from the Falls Road car line. Mrs. Robinson was on her way to the Crane home nearby and had reached a little neck of woods on the hill. Just as she was about to enter the roadway leading to the Crane residence she was halted by a white man in a car.

Baltimore, Md.

She described her assailant as tall, and weighing about 180 pounds. He seized her, she said, without saying a word, clamped his hand over her mouth to prevent her screaming and began dragging her into the woods. It was still dark she said and she fought desperately to hold off the man who tore off most of her clothing in the struggle.

Finally she succeeded in breaking his hold on her face and screamed aloud. Another auto coming down the road sounded it's horn, and as the white man looked around, Mrs. Robinson broke loose and ran up the hill to the Crane home where she fell exhausted and reported the attack to her employer. Police were notified, but have not succeeded in effecting the man's capture.

Lynchings — 1923.
Rapes by Whites.

Massachusetts.

1443

RAPED COLORED GIRL

IS CHARGED IN COURT AT HAVERHILL, MASS., AGAINST A WHITE MAN—SENT 3 WHITE GIRLS HOME FROM AUTO RIDE AND DETAINED COLORED GIRL

Haverhill, July 13, 1923.—Ralph Genthner, of this city, was in Central District court charged with assault on a 13-year old Colored girl.

Genthner, according to the police, asked three girls, the oldest about 15, to accompany him on an auto ride Tuesday night and the three accepted the invitation. Later Genthner sent the white girls home, inducing the Colored girl to remain, and, it is alleged, attempted to assault her.

Lynchings—1923
Rape by Whites.

New Jersey.

1444

WHITE MAN FREE AFTER ATTEMPTED ASSAULT ON GIRL

Chicago Defender
Chicago Defender

By WM. G. WREN, JR.

Newark, N. J., Jan. 26.—At 11 o'clock on the morning of Jan. 11, 13-year-old Florence Westbrook of 230 West Kenney street entered the store of the United Beef company at 139 Bruce street to purchase a pound of ham for her mother. As she entered the manager, Charles Bresky (white), greeted her in an insulting manner and as she turned to rebuke him, Albert Christy, 20, also white and employed there, pulled her behind the ice box and attempted to assault the girl.



Miss Westbrook

As she was pulled across the store Daniel C. Watson, who conducts a barber shop opposite the place, noticed what was going on from the window. Running into the store Watson demanded that Bresky give him the girl he had seen pulled behind the ice box. Bresky denied that there was anyone behind the box and refused to allow Watson to look. Watson returned again to the store, this time with two friends, and made a search of the place, only to find the girl gone.

Makes Statement

To a Defender reporter Florence later gave this statement: "After Bresky had made his insulting remark his helper pulled me to him, kissed me and then forced me behind the ice box." Amid a burst of tears she continued: "He then tried to—" and here the little girl faltered. "He failed, thank God," here interposed the mother. "I begged the other man to make him let me go, but he only laughed at me," she continued. "A man came into the store and asked was I behind the box, but I could not make an outcry because he had me by the throat choking me.

"As soon as the front door closed he opened the back door as Bresky told him to do, pulled me out and ran. I came home and told my mother," she concluded.

The mother, a widow, and a woman of intelligence, reported the case to the police. As yet they have been unable to apprehend Christy.

Th case was placed in the hands of a policewoman, who advised the mother not to push the case any further as it would cause a lot of publicity. This disgraceful case did not reach the white press.

For hours crowds of Race men hunted the district over for the perpetrator of this crime, it was reported.

The police found no reason to arrest Bresky.

GIRL, 19, SLAIN IN LOT NEAR JERSEY HOME; LAY THERE ALL NIGHT

Left Parents to "Go to the Corner" With Friends After Seeing Movie Show.

CHOKED, CLOTHING TORN

Man's Handkerchief and Bottle of Camphor Only Clues Near the Scene.

OTHER WOMEN ASSAULTED

Paterson Police Told of Attacks—Autopsy Shows Death Caused by Broken Neck.

Special to The New York Times.

PATERSON, N. J., May 19.—Jessie Piekema, 19 years old, "went to the corner," near her home, with a girl friend last night. This morning her dead body was found in a lot 100 feet from the house where her anxious parents sat waiting her return. The girl was a silk worker who had no known male companions.

The discovery of the body at 6:30 o'clock this morning by a man on his way to work, and the announcement in local newspapers later in the day, started the police on a hunt for a man who has accosted and attacked several women recently in the neighborhood of the Piekema girl's home, while a prominent woman interested in social work reported thta she, too, had an unpleasant experience with the man several nihgts ago.

An autopsy by Dr. Robert R. Armstrong, Passaic County Physician, disclosed that the young woman had been attacked, and that death was due to a broken neck. Several of her front teeth had been knocked out, and her jaw broken. She had fought her assailant until he choked her to death. Her clothing had been torn from her body.

Detectives who interviewed the girl's parents and girl friends, were unable to discover any love affair in her life which might lead to a clue to the murder. They gathered what evidence they could find on the spot, a blood spattered man's handkerchief and a bottle of camphorated oil purchased at a near-by druggist's.

Soon after publication of the story of the murder in the Paterson evening newspapers, however, the police began to receive reports over the telephone from women who thought they might be able to furnish a description of the murderer. None of the descriptions, however, was complete enough to give much help.

One woman said that she had returned from a social affair on Wednesday night with two women friends, whom she left at their homes. Within a block of her own home, a man she said she had noticed following them, caught up to her and barring her escape, demanded to know the name of one of the other women. The woman said she refused to tell, and pushing the man aside, ran to her home. She said that when male members of her family searched for the man, they could not find him.

The police also recalled that several days ago the Temple Hill Improvement Association petitioned the local Fire and Police Commissioners to provide additional police protection for the Temple Hill section. The petition was directly due to the fact that several women had been accosted while walking alone through the streets, and one or two attacks by men had been attempted. No action had been taken on the petition, although additional protection, it was said, is contemplated.

On Friday evening Miss Piekema went to a motion picture show at Public School 12, accompanied by a girl friend, Miss Mattie Tanis, of 46 North Bergen Street. When the show was over both girls went to the Piekema home at 21 Barnert Place. Miss Tanis remained there for a few minutes and when she was about to leave the Piekema girl told her mother she would see her friend "to the corner."

Miss Tanis told the police that as they stood on the corner chatting, a third young woman, Jenne Myers, joined them. Miss Tanis thought they remained on the corner for half an hour. She said that they had noticed a Ford car containing three men pass the corner several times, anud that one of the men in the tonneau made some indistinct comment to the girls. Soon after this incident Miss Piekema bade her friends good night and started for her home.

Mrs. Piekema, the girl's mother, who sat in a chair in her home today dry-eyed, unable to believe that her only child was dead, told the police that her daughter did not come home a second time. Unable to explain her absence she had remained awake throughout the night, worried, and was dozing when neighbors rushed into the house early this morning with the news of the murder.

Mrs. Piekema said that her daughter had no male companion, and that to her knowledge had never had a love affair. Wherever Jessie went, she said, she invariably was accompanied by one or more girl companions.

Miss Tanis, one of her closest friends, was a fellow workers in the silk mills. The girls would meet each morning and go to the factory together, returning together in the evening.

The girl's parents are natives of Holland. Miss Piekema was born in this country, and was educated in the public schools of Paterson. As soon as she was of working age she entered the silk factory to aid in the support of the family.

Lynchings - 1923
Rapes, — bo Whites.

New York.

1445

WORLD
APRIL 30, 1923

Mob Tries to Lynch Man Accused By Girl, Five

When five-year-old Bessie Rose of No. 31 Willet Street told her mother yesterday that Michael Sabatas, thirty-five, of Mills Hotel No. 2, in Rivington Street, had lured her under the Williamsburg Bridge and attacked her, the mother, Mrs. Sadie Rose, told neighbors and soon a crowd gathered and threatened to lynch the man.

When Detective Sergeant William Nammack saw the crowd and heard it shouting "Hang him to the bridge," Nammack rescued the man with difficulty and called for reserves. The latter had to beat the crowd away with their sticks. The girl and the man were taken to the Clinton Street Station, where Sabatas was charged with attacking the child.

Lynchings—1923
Rape by Whites

North Carolina.

1442

WHITE GIRL SAYS UNCLE RAPED HER

St. Louis Argus

Crime Cleared Up By Death Bed Confession, Had Been Fixed On Negroes Hunted By Mobs And Bloodhounds

LEXINGTON, N. C., Jan. 29.—This section has been startled awake by the death-bed testimony of Essie Beattie, white, who has persistently stated that she received her injuries at the hands of Negroes on the night of November 7 last.

The surrounding districts have been scoured by armed mobs of white men blood hounds have been used and every effort has been made to find Negroes of the description given by the Beattie girl. In her former statements the girl said, "We were approached by a tall and a short Negro who killed our escort and then forcibly assaulted both of us. One of the Negroes held me while the other assaulted me. Afterward they shot me." me."

The men, it was said, then made their getaway on a freight train.

For weeks a relentless "man hunt" kept the telegraph wires scoured. Mobs formed on more than one occasion and only the cooler heads prevented a race outbreak. While the dragnet was spread, several 'suspects' were taken and the "third degree" applied in an effort to gain a confession. Then came the confession of the Beattie girl.

Swears To Statement

The truth came to light after an affidavit had been signed by Miss Elsie Beattie before Coroner W. N. Davis, one of the most relentless prosecutors of the case.

According to the story of the girl, she was shot by John Carswell, a white ne'er-do-well, on the night of November 7, last, near Gastonia, N. C., as a climax to a "wild" joy ride, in which "mountain moonshine" and "mountain lovemaking" vied for leading roles.

In her sworn affidavit, the girl admitted that John Carswell and Robert Grice, uncle and father of one of the girls in the party, were the men who committed the crime, and admitted that the "Negro" story was invented in an effort to save the whites.

Picked Up On Street

On the night in question, Ransom Killian and John Ford, both white, picked up the two girs in a car, and carried them out for a wild joy ride. At a lonely spot, known as "lovers' lane", Ford and Miss Grice, one of the girls, strolled away, leaving the other couple with the car.

Suddenly, several shots rent the stillness of the night. Ford was instantly killed, while Miss Beatti was badly wounded.

The affidavit, as sworn to by Miss Beattie, gave a graphic account of what immediately followed.

Attacked by Men

"Then John Carswell and Bob or Robert Grice carried her (Miss Beattie) to a spot near the place and outraged her; that the said John Carswell and Bob Grice had sexual intercourse with her against her will, that she, the said Essie Beattie was shot in the back; that at the time she was shot she was not doing anything to the said John Carswell."

This story was only obtained after hospital authorities had told the girl that there was no chance of recovery and urged her to reveal the real facts of the case.

WHITE GIRL SWEARS THAT RELATIVES COMMITTED CRIMES, AND NOT NEGRO.

Raleigh Times

Wild Joy Ride, Mountain "Moonshine" and Mountain "Loving" Leading Roles in Murder and Assault of White Girl By Father and Uncle of Companion.

2-3-23

"Negro Story" Given Lie As Girl Gives Details.

Lexington, N. C., Feb. 1.—Another link that was added to that endless chain of malicious lies of the very blackest kind, in which two colored men, alleged to have attacked and mistreated a white girl, were hunted throughout North Carolina hills for more than two months, was forged here last week, when one of the girls, lying critically ill in a local hospital, confessed that the father and uncle of one of the girls in that wild "midnight party" had committed murder and assault, and not a Negro, as first told by the party.

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In her sworn affidavit, the girl admitted that John Carswell and Robert Grice were the men who committed the crime, and admitted that the "Negro" story was invented in a futile effort to save the whites.

Negroes Hunted Down.

The story as first told, and which tore up against the questioning and robing until last week, was to the effect, that Ford and Miss Grice were "spooning," when they were abruptly interuptted by a tall and short Negro. Killian, it was said, was rebbed of all his money, Ford was killed and the Beattie girl shot.

The alleged victims have declared that both girls were savagely and criminally assaulted, thecolored men holding them in subjection for more than two hours and forcing the white man to witness unspeakable indignities.

The men it is said, then made their getaway on a freight train.

For weeks a relentless "man hunt" kept the telegraph wires busy. The hills and wools werescoured. Mobs formed on more than one occasion and only the cooler heads prevented a race outbreak. While the dragnet was spread, several "suspects" were taken and the "third degree" applied in an effort to gain a confession. Then came the confession of the Beattie girl.

Charged With Assault.

Robert Grice and John Carswell, father and uncle, respectively, of a girl in the party, have been arrested on two warrants charging criminal assault and murder against each.

JANUARY 30. 1923

Lynching Record Reduced.

There were fifty-seven persons lynched during 1922 in the United States, according to an annual report given out by the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute. This is seven less, the report shows, than in 1921. The states where such acts were performed were: Alabama, 2; Arkansas, 5; Florida, 5; Georgia, 11; Louisiana, 11; Mississippi, 9; Oklahoma, 1; South Carolina, 1; Tennessee, 2, and Texas, 18. Of the total number thus illegally put to death fifty-one were colored and six were white.

That public opinion is becoming stronger against lynching is indicated by the fact that while thirty persons were taken from the hand of the law and executed last year, there were fifty-eight instances, says the Tuskegee report, where the officers of the law prevented lynchings.

It is hoped that 1923 will make a much better showing for law and order than its predecessor—or, better still, give America a clean slate by letting the law take its course.

Prominent White Man Assaulted White Woman

New York Age

(Special Correspondence)

Ashboro, N. C.—Joseph McDowell, one of the most prominent white men in Randolph County, is held in jail for trial at next session of the county criminal court on the charge of having criminally assualted Mrs. Baxter Rich, who is a family equally as prominnent as McDowell's. The act was committed last December, according to the charge.

3/17/23 N.Y.

When Magistrates Lowdermilk and Ward held the preliminary trial the court room was jammed. McDowell was committed to jail, but his attorneys said they would try to get him out on bail.

Counsel for Mrs. Rich declare this will be impossible, as the North Carolina law does not provide for bail in cases of criminal assualt.

The wealth and prominence of the parties concerned, and the fact that they are all white, cause the race residents of the community to watch for the outcome with considerable interest.

MASKED WHITES RAPE 57 YEAR OLD WOMAN

Passions of Whites Satisfied on the Body of Mulatto Woman

KINSTON, N. C., May 19.—Stumbling into the home of a colored family in Lenoir county a little before daybreak Friday morning with her body bruised and bleeding, Mrs. Mary Hagan, a mulatto woman 52 years old, told the family that she had been hauled in an automobile from her home in Greene county by four masked white men, three of whom had criminally assaulted her while all unmercifully beat and otherwise mistreated her and left her in a dazed condition lying in the county road.

5/19/23 N.Y.

Her life was spared, she said, through the intercession of one of the assaulters who pleaded that she be not killed.

Mrs. Hogan reported the incident to the authorities of Greene county, who have taken seriously her story, it is said. However, it has not been reported that any blood hounds have been set out to trail the criminals, nor as an armed posse of infuriated citi-

zens cornered the assaulters in a wooded thicket with the expectation of an immediate capture, neither have, in so far as reports from Greene county reveal, several suspects been lodged in jail and subjected to the third degree.

No Reward

No reward has been offered for the capture of the fiends and no one has been arrested, as yet, it is stated, but the sheriff has intimated that he has in hand evidence which may result in two arrests. Investigation by the authorities, it is admitted, revealed that the woman had made remarks reflecting upon the character of certain white people living near Snow Hill. None of the group of these certain white people whom the sheriff thinks had a motive for assaulting the aged woman have been reported as arrested.

Mrs. Mary Hagen, 52 years old and already weakening from the infirmities of age, suffered this criminal treatment, according to her story, from four able-bodied white men whom the authorities believe were protecting their good names from what was supposed to have been slander.

The woman, it is said, is being detained for further investigation and medical examinatiou.

S CRIMINALLY ASSAULTED AND SKULL CRUSHED

Norfolk

Young Woman Meets With Foul Murder After Being Savagely and Criminally Violated; Crime Stirs City.

Virginian Pilot

BLOODHOUNDS TRAIL SCENT TO REID'S HOME

9-24-23

Taroboro, N. C, Sept., 25—With her skull crushed and showing evidences of having met with the foulest murder after being criminally assaulted, the blood-stained body of Miss Martha Bynum, 18, was found in a cotton patch in the rear of her home by her father, Turner Bynum, late Saturday afternoon.

Norfolk Va.

The dead girl's family upon returning home a little after sunset missed her from the premises. A search was instituted which was not pursued long before strange tracks and torn up earth in the back yard indicated that there had been a physical encounter in the rear of the house. From this spot the search was continued along a path evidently made by the dragging of a burden in the direction of the cotton patch. At the end of this trail was found the body of the dead girl. An examination of the body revealed that the young woman had been criminally assaulted and then murdered by being brained with a heavy blunt instrument. Her torn clothes and scratches upon her limbs indicated that the girl had sacrificed her life in a desperate attempt to protect her honor... conditions in the yard indicated that she had fought her attacker until brutally struck down.

The police were immediately notified. Bloodhounds were procured and taking up a scent from the strange tracks the man chasers made a dash directly to the home of James Reid, about a mile away. There they balked and refused to go farther. A warrant was issued for Russell Reid, brother of James Reid.

EVIDENCE LEFT BARES BRUTAL DOUBLE CRIME

St. Louis Mo.

GIRL ASSAULTED BEFORE HER BRAINS ARE BEATEN OUT

10-12-23

TAROBORO, N. C., Oct. 6. — With her skull crushed and showing evidences of having met with the foulest murder after having been criminally assaulted, the blood-stained body of Miss Martha Bynum, 18, was found in a cotton patch in the rear of her home by her father. Turner Bynum, late Saturday afternoon.

Earth Torn Up

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Lynchings — 1923.
Rapes by Whites.

Pennsylvania.

1440

INDIAN ADMITS ASSAULT WHICH STIRRED MEDIA

Phila

Several Colored Men Arrested When Girl Said Assailant Had "Black Arms"

Baltimore Md.

BLACK STOCKINGS FOUND

10-12-23

Indian Had Covered Arms With Silk Hose To Hide His Color

By L. Massenhuge

Phila., Pa., Oct. 10—Emmett Davis, a fullblooded Cheroke Indian, confessed he attacked Mildred Mosser, white a high school student of Media, Pa., last Thursday.

It was known a few hours after the night of the attack, but the police authorities of Media held out as long as they could because they wanted the girl to say it was a Negro.

Investigating the attack, the girl went to the home of John McCarter, a friend of the family afterwards and told McCarter. With several men they went to the scene, found it had been arranged and discovered a pair of woman's black stockings with the feet cut off. Returning to his home McCarter tried to persuade the girl to say it was a Negro. She refused and stated: "A white man (meaning the Indian who is considered white,) spoke to me yesteray and I was frightened by his actions. And he may have been the one hwo attacked me." She further stated, "I cannot say whether he was white or colored because I was seized from the rear and saw two "black arms" I also bit the man's thumb." The attack was committed at dusk and the black stockings was a trick to put it on a Negro.

That night the Indian went to a physician in Chester, a few miles away for treatment of his thumb. The physician at once suspected the man and notified Media police. The Indian was arrested. He confessed to Dr. Martin W. Barr, Superintendent of the Pennsylvania Training School for the Feeble Minded. He also told the police of Media, but they didn't make it known at once.

The girl's condition was such that she was confined to her bed. Eight or more colored men were arrested and discharged without seeing her because none of them had a bitten thumb. The girl's parents flatly refused to believe she was attacked by a Negro and sanctioned the girl's statement. The black stockings bore out that fact.

The girl threatened to come to Philadelphia and make known her assailant if the authorities in Media didn't and the result was printed in the daily papers Thursday afternoon. The lies about mob violence were found to be untrue. Colored people and whites went along as if nothing had happened. There was no excitement over the attack.

The Ku Klux Klan added color to the affair. They burned a cross in the colored section, but race people, armed to teeth destroyed it and found Ku Klux Klan literature scattered about the ground. The night riders had fled. However ,the Klan threatened the Catholics whose denomination is in majority, and owed to destroy churches. The Catholics were prepared and guarded their property.

Race people trusted no mistake and were prepared if anything should happen to harm. The police force consists of one race officer and two white, one the chief, a sheriff and several deputies.

White Man Arrested For Molesting Negro Girls

St. Louis Argus
St. Louis, Mo.
10-12-23

(White Man Arrested)

Preston News Service

PITTSBURGH, Pa., Oct. 10.—Leo Gill, a white man, was arrested last Friday evening by City Fireman Edward Worthy and lodged in jail on a charge of molesting several Negro girls.

Lynchings—1923
Rapes by Whites.

Tennessee

1441

"Blackface" Morons Hit White Girls

1-20-23

Chicago Defender

Memphis, Tenn., Jan. 19.—Word has been received by prominent white citizens here that the men called "Negroes" accused of attacking two white women in the city parks last week were not of the Race at all, but white men with their faces blackened.

It is reported that the police department is of the same opinion, but has not made the notion public for obvious reasons. The police hold that they would have been able to apprehend the men had there not been such a mask on them as to make them impossible of identification.

One of the white men seized a white woman in broad daylight soon after she had alighted from a street car near the city, dragged her to a ravine in the park and held her captive for eight hours, abusing and attacking her, then throwing her over a bluff into the shallow water along the river bank below. His victim is in a serious condition.

The second white man, whose motive is believed to have been robbery, fired at Mrs. Thelma Cunningham, a widow, as she was riding with her fiance near the city. The woman's companion refused to obey the white man's command to stop the automobile and the highwayman fired three shots, one of which struck the woman. She is not expected to recover.

The anonymous letters did not in any case name the assailants of the women.

Lynchings—1439
Rapes by Whites.

7-Year-Old Girl Raped in Texas

New York Amsterdam News

Outcome of Trial Suppressed by White Press

3-17-23

GALVESTON, TEXAS.—While King Frivolous and his queen held court to their thousands of loyal subjects on Mardi Gras, a poor little innocent colored girl was being raped by a white brute in the east end of the city.

Little Harriet Mays was sent to the grocery store on Mardi Gras afternoon to do some purchasing for her mother. She went to several stores with no result, only to end at A. Belluomini, running a grocery store on 14th and Avenue M. She was masked and went in and called for several articles. She testifies that the Italian lured her behind the counter and committed a brutal assault upon her. She is only 7 years old.

Arriving home it was necessary to rush her to the John Sealy Hospital for treatment. It was necessary for the doctors at the hospital to take several stitches in her body.

He was taken to jail and tried the next morning. The little girl was forced to take the witness stand for several hours while prominent attorneys frightened her almost into hysterics. It was a pitiful travesty upon justice to force such a little child to remain on the stand for such a long time.

The prosecuting attorney made no effort to convict the Italian who perpetrated the brutal crime upon this little innocent girl. The result of the trial is shrouded in mystery as the newspapers carried no report of the trial. Furthermore, there was nothing at all in our daily papers about the matter. Had that been a Negro man attacking a white girl, large headlines would have been run in all of the papers so that he might read while he runs.

John Mays, the father of the little girl, was driven out of court and the prosecuting attorney gives him the consolation to be "patient and all will be well." It must not be forgotten that a Galveston Negro by the name of Lee Lyons was given 99 years in the penitentiary for allowing a white girl to make love to him. Lyons did not attack the girl either—they were lovers.

Texas.

Little Harriet Mays is at present under the treatment of doctors looking and waiting for American justice to punish the cruel and vicious perpetrator of this dastardly deed.

Colored Residents Firm In Opinion Butcher Slew Girl

Houston Informer

Houston, Texas 2-3-23

Rumor, like Banquo's ghost, which would not down, has it that the 12-year-old colored girl, Esterlyne Mae Bailey, who was criminally assaulted, then choked and beaten to death by some fiendish brute on night of January 22, met her death from the hands of a white man.

Colored residents of Fourth Ward are saying that some person connected with the market at San Felipe and Crosby Streets committed this dastardly and diabolical crime.

The only colored employe of the market was arrested, but later was released, as it was no possible way to connect him with the crime.

It is also stated that one of the white butchers was missing from the market the day after the heinous and horrible crime and that a few minutes after the girl left the place, one of the white men got in his car and drove up San Felipe in the direction of the Baptist Sanitarium.

It is thought that he overtook the youthful colored girl and offered her a ride to a downtown corner for boarding the Studewood street car.

It is also reported that this man had often made remarks about the girl's form and attractiveness and that he had openly expressed a desire to satisfy his bestial passion upon this 12-year-old colored girl.

It is generally conceded by Houstonians of color that no colored man committed the crime, as no race man would have conceived of such an atrocious crime. The act, they opine, was committed by a fiend known to the girl, who slew her after the outrage to cover up his criminal assault.

It is stated that this butcher returned to the market that night about 10:00 o'clock, knocked on the door, but the colored employe, who sleeps in the place, failed to open the door. The next day this butcher was missing.

That she was overtaken by some person in an automobile, carried to the secluded spot, outraged and then slain is the current belief.

Just what the authorities are doing in the matter has not been divulged at hour of going to press.

1439

Dead Body Found In Second Ward; One Arrest Made

Houston Informer

Houston, Texas

1-27-23

This community was thrown into a feverish excitement, when the dead body of little Esterline Mae Bailey was discovered near the I. & G. N. Ry. freight house Tuesday.

Investigation disclosed the fact that the little 12-year child had been brutally and criminally outraged before being murdered, and that the arch-fiend, who perpetrated this horrible and heinous crime, had possibly lured or abducted her to that section of the city.

Last Sunday was her birthday and her foster-mother, Mrs. Edna Grimes, 308 Thirtieth Street, Independence Heights, had sent her to Fourth Ward Monday evening to get a natal day token from a blind man, friend of the family. This gift consisted of two pairs of stockings.

She was also sent to the market at San Felipe and Crosby and a grocery store, where some money was given her for Mrs. Grimes.

She was to have gone by the Baptist Sanitarium for some clothes, but never reached this institution.

Just how she reached Second Ward and who the brutish fiend was, are baffling the police officials.

One suspect is under arrest and the sheriff's department is bending every effort to apprehend the guilty culprit.

Despite the brutality and fiendishness of the crime, there

is no talk of lynch-law, the colored citizens being determined to see justice done through regularly constituted instrumentalities, notwithstanding this is one of the most shocking, revolting and heinous crimes in the criminal annals of Harris County.

William Bailey, father of the outraged and murdered child, resides in Galveston.

RAPE TWO, KILLS ONE

According to newspaper reports, one Wylie Morgan, a white man, 28 years old, with the average amount of intelligence of his kind, has confessed that he did kidnap two little girls 4 and 6 years old respectively and raped both of them, one to death and the other into insensibility. St. Louis Argus - 3/2/23

This, so far as we know eclipses all crimes in the history of crimes recorded in this country. To call such a crime brutish or beastial would be grossly misrepresenting the character of the "lower" animals. Zoologist tells us, and we know by our own knowledge that what we call "lower" animals do not abuse their young, but on the other hand, protect them until they reach a mature age. We, therefore, wonder what manner of man was he who would take almost babies from the cradle, helpless, innocent and undefiled and mutilate their bodies in an effort to satisfy his lust and passion for womankind. Surely such a man is possessed of a depraved nature and a desperado exceedingly dangerous to society. St. Louis, Mo

When we think of the nature of the crime, and think of the suffering that little Dorothy and Lillian underwent while Morgan raped one to death and the other nearly so, our sympathy goes out for the victims as well as for their parents.

Of course, as would naturally be expected, we do not hear much from the daily newspapers in the way of scare-crow headlines with black face letters telling of this crime. Even the Belleville News-Democrat who gloated over the hanging of two Negroes, charged with murder a few days ago seems to be rather quiet about this case. So little is said in daily newspapers about crimes of this nature when committed by white men, until we really wonder sometimes is it generally considered a crime for a white man to commit rape upon womankind, be they babies or grand-mothers. We suppose however, that such crimes along with many others are considered by the press as "privileged" because its a white man.

Crime has no color. Its against the peace and dignity of the State. It should be condemned regardless of who commits it. Those who would "play up" and magnify crimes charged to one group or class of citizens and at the same time minimize and ignore the crimes charged to another group or class of citizens are doing society and the State an injustice by encouraging crime among that group. And so long as that is done, we may expect the repetition of the double rape-murder case as happened in Philadelphia a few days ago.

Island City Grocer Attacks Black Girl;

Houston Informer - Houston, Texas
2-24-23

Arrested, Mock Trial

Special to The Informer.

C... Tex., Feb. 16.—While King Frivolous and his ... thousands of loyal subjects on ... girl was being raped ... as the newspapers carried no report of the trial. Furthermore, there was nothing at all in our daily papers about the matter. Had that been a Negro man attacking a white girl, large headlines would have been run in all of the papers so that he might read while he runs.

John Mays, the father of the little girl, was driven out of court and the prosecuting attorney gives him the consolation to be "patient and all will be well." It must not be forgotten that a Galveston Negro by the name of Lee Lyons was given 99 years in the penitentiary for allowing a white girl to make love to him. Lyons did not attack the girl either—they were lovers.

This is not the first time that little colored girls have been attacked in the city by these vicious Italian grocery store corner keepers. A little girl was attacked in the West End some time ago by one of them and the matter died out without anything being done and a little said.

Little Harriet Mays is at present under the treatment of doctors looking and waiting for American justice to punish the cruel and vicious perpetrator of this dastardly deed. Will she wait in vain?

(Editor's Note: By the way, what has become of the local case, where little 12-year-old Esterlyne Mae Bailey, race girl, was criminally assaulted and then brutally and barbarously murdered by her assailant? What became of the suspected white butcher, who left town the same night of the crime? What are the authorities doing to apprehend and punish the guilty culprit? How long will justice remain asleep or continue color-blind? If the victims in these cases had been white girls, and their assailants black men, would the same action have been taken by the authorities? Who said that the colored race got justice in the criminal courts of the South? Selah!)

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...ment attorneys of the city, hired by the Italian, frightened her almost into hysterics. It was a pitiful travesty upon justice to force such a little child to remain on the stand for such a long time.

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Lynchings—1923
Prevented.

1412

Evidence Chain Forged Stronger In Brutal Death

Atlanta Constitution

Anniston Prisoner Is Extremely Nervous When Bloody Leggings Are Found.

2-11-23

Anniston, Ala., February 10.—(Special.)—Another strong link in the chain of circumstantial evidence which officers claim to be weaving around Gordon Fincher, married man, who is being held as a murder suspect in the Talladega county jail following the brutal murder Tuesday of a 16-year-old girl, was forged on Friday by the finding of a blood-soaked pair of canvas leggings hidden behind a box in his home near Lincoln.

Mrs. Fincher is reported by the officers, who made the find in his home, to have suffered a near collapse as the new piece of evidence was unearthed in an unused room of the house, and Fincher is said to have exhibited signs of extreme nervousness when the leggings were shown to him at the county jail and he was asked to explain the presence of the blood on his leggings.

Examine Finger Prints.

Arrival of a finger print expert at Lincoln from Birmingham Friday added interest to the investigation which has been under way since the body of the pretty 16-year-old girl was found in a stump hole in sight of her home Tuesday afternoon with her throat cut six times, and the outcome of the new phase of the probe will be awaited with feverish interest by scores of people who live on the border line of Calhoun and Talladega counties.

Accompanied by Officer M. C. Baxter, who arrested Fincher at his home Wednesday and who found the pair of bloody leggings hidden in the suspect's home, the finger print expert visited the scene of the brutal crime on Friday, going from that point to the county jail at Talladega to secure impressions of Fincher's thumbs, and it is hoped by this means either to connect the suspect with the crime or establish his innocence.

Evidences found at the scene of the crime by officers indicated that the girl had been dragged by her feet from the point where she was assaulted to the stump hole, about 100 feet from the road, and it is believed that the expert will be able to secure a sufficient impression from the shoes worn by the girl at the time to continue his investigation in that quarter.

Arrangements were being made at Talladega and Lincoln to hold a preliminary trial for Fincher as soon as the officers have assembled all of their evidence in the case.

FINCHER IS REMOVED TO BIRMINGHAM JAIL

1412

Montgomery Advertiser

Talladega Man Charged With Murder Transferred For Safekeeping

2-12-23

(Associated Press)

BIRMINGHAM, ALA., Feb. 11.—Gordon Fincher, 30, held in connection with the death of May Bell McCollough, 16-year-old girl at Lincoln, Ala., Tuesday, was brought to Birmingham and lodged in the Jefferson county jail early this morning for safekeeping, according to Sheriff Burk, of Talladega county.

Fincher was arrested after bloody clothing had been found at his residence, the officer stated. An analysis of the blood stains will be made, it was said, to determine whether the blood is that of a human or of a hog, as Fincher is said to have claimed.

M. E. McDuff, finger print expert, of Birmingham, who went to Lincoln to assist the authorities in their investigation, is making a study of bloody fingerprints found on a stump near the scene of the murder.

MOB VIOLENCE FEARED.

Commercial Appeal Memphis

Alleged Slayer of 16-Year-Old Girl Transferred to Birmingham.

2-12-23

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., Feb. 11.—George Fincher, 30, held in connection with the death of May Bell McCullough, 16-year-old girl at Lincoln, Ala., was brought to Birmingham and lodged in the Jefferson County jail early this morning for safekeeping, according to Sheriff Burk, of Talladega County.

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M. E. McDuff, finger-print expert of Birmingham, who went to Lincoln to assist the authorities in their investigation, is making a study of bloody finger prints found upon a stump near the scene of the murder.

Second Arrest Is Made in Birmingham Kidnapping Affair

Montgomery Advertiser

2-18-23

(Special to The Advertiser)

BIRMINGHAM, ALA., Feb. 17.—Sam Brasher of Acipco, was arrested today and held in connection with investigation into the kidnapping last Monday night of Ed. H. Daniels, negro who shot his way to liberty. Daniels said he wounded one of his abductors.

P. H. Newman is under arrest in connection with the case and has been identified by Daniels as one of his abductors, police said.

Another man in a Birmingham hospital is under surveillaice by police in connection with the case. Police said the wounded man stated that Newman carried him to the hospital for treatment but the patient insists he shot himself accidentally.

Lynch Threats Cause Removal From Talladega

Atlanta Constitution

2-12-23

Anniston, Ala., February 12.—(Special).—Lynch threats Sunday night by angry citizens of Talledega county against Gordon Fincher, held under charge of assaulting and murdering a pretty sixteen-year-old girl last Tuesday near Lincoln, was followed by the hurried removal of the prisoner from Talladega to Birmingham.

Fincher was reported Sunday night to have indicated that he would make a statement Monday but was still silent Monday night after an all-day grilling.

Finding of a bloody undergarment hid in the loft of the Fincher home by Officer M. C. Baxter created excitement of a dangerous nature in the Lincoln neighborhood Sunday and it was deemed wise to remove the prisoner to a more distant and less accessible place of confinement pending completion of plans for holding a preliminary trial in Talladega.

ACCUSED NEGROES MOVED.

Commercial Appeal Memphis

SHEFFIELD, Ala., Dec. 13.—Sam Greenhill and Dave Newberry, Tuscumbia negroes, who officers say, confessed the slaying of Harry S. White, mounted guard at nitrate plant No. 1 Saturday, have been spirited away from Sheffield because of fear of violence, it was announced today. It is not known where they were taken. White's body was thrown into an abandoned cistern after he was killed.

ANDALUSIA MERCHANT IS SLAIN; CHIEF OF POLICE WOUNDED AND MURDER CHARGED TO KILPATRICK

Commercial Appeal Memphis

Advertiser Bureau.
Andalusia, Ala.
Oscar Dugger, Jr.

ANDALUSIA, ALA., May 2.—J. L. Knox, prominent merchant and business man and highly esteemed citizen of Andalusia is dead, Chief of Police J. N. Jernigan, of this city is in a critical condition at a local hospital and Burle S. Kilpatrick, an employee of the Mercantile firm of J. L. Knox and company is being carried to the Montgomery county jail for safe keeping by Sheriff J. N. Livings, charged in one warrant with first degree murder of J. L. Knox, and in another warrant on assault with intent to murder J. N. Jernigan. The two warrants were issued by Justice of the Peace, L. J. Salter.

According to reports, Mr. Kilpatrick, a veteran employe of the mercantile firm of J. L. Knox and company was in an intoxicated condition and at the noon hour, when he and Mr. Knox and Miss Alice Kennedy, the latter at the front of the store, were the sole occupants of the store, both men became engaged in a conversation at the rear. The exact nature of the conversation is not known; but it is believed that Mr. Knox was remonstrating with Kilpatrick regarding his conduct.

Three Shots Fired.

Pistol reports alleged by witnesses to have been fired by Kilpatrick, attracted the attention of the young lady and others about the rear and front of the store. Three shots are said to have been fired at this time, two of them entering the body of Mr. Knox. After the shooting persons who rushed in to find the latter dead, state that Kilpatrick reloaded his pistol and going to the front entrance of the store, refused to admit anyone.

Sheriff J. N. Livings and Chief of Police J. N. Jernigan were notified of the latter being at his home, and as the sheriff approached the store, according to his statement, Kilpatrick reentered the store. Chief Jernigan rushed up in a car at this time and both officials entered at about the same time. Chief Jernigan advanced on Kilpatrick. It is stated, but was unarmed, and the latter is alleged by eye witnesses to have fired upon him. One bullet entering the breast at the base of the neck and ranging toward the right shoulder, where it was later discovered by X-ray and removed.

Sheriff Makes Arrest.

Sheriff Livings, armed, circled Kilpatrick, as he stated, and before another shot could be fired, forced him to surrender his arms and submit to arrest and confinement in the county jail, pending his early removal to Montgomery.

The arrival of the officers at the scene was fully ten minutes subsequent to the killing of Mr. Knox, and when the news of the dual tragedy spread over Andalusia, as it did in a very short time, it caused a feeling of inspeakable sorrow and sincere regret and especially so since the tragedy was so unexpected.

So far as can be ascertained, there had been nothing but good feeling existing between the parties to the tragedy, and in the killing of Mr. Knox, there is no indication whatever of any difficulty. These circumstances make it all the more difficult to account for such a tragedy.

Was Prominent Business Man.

Mr. Knox, who was about 42 years of age, was the only son of Mr. and Mrs. W. M. Knox, a nephew of J. D. Henderson, Tuscaloosa lumberman, was a Mason and Shriner, member of the local chamber of commerce, Rotary club, and was recognized as one of the leading busines men of Andalusia. He was also a member of the Methodist church.

Owing to the fact that the only sister of the deceased lives in Kentucky and the time of her arrival has not been ascertained, funeral plans have not been announced.

Kilpatrick, the man charged with the killing, is of good family, one of his brothers, Wiley Kilpatrick, is a member of the department store firm here, of Kilpatrick and Mashburn. He has two other brothers, Hiram and George, who live in and near Andalusia, respectively. Deceased is survived by his widow and two daughters, Misses Margaret and Augusta Knox, all of this city.

Countless intimate friends of the deceased here, a number of whom came here with him 21 years ago from Searight, Alabama, to become established in business, feel keenly the loss of so honored and respected and responsible a citizen.

NEGROES' CONFESSION CLEARS GUARD'S DEATH

Commercial Appeal Memphis

Lynching Averted at Florence by Vigilant Officials

12-14-23

FLORENCE, Ala., Dec. 13.—Full information regarding the slaying of Harry S. White, mounted guard at Nitrate Plant No. 1, last Saturday, was given out this morning by Commanding Officer Anthony Poyett at Nitrate Plant No. 2, following a complete confession from two negro men who had been arrested in the case. The confession came after 28 hours of grilling, during which each of the men claimed that the other did the deed, but finally establishing the fact that the murder was committed by Sam Greenhill and his companion, Dave Newberry, who aided him in placing the body in an abandoned cistern on the government reservation.

In Newberry's statement, he said that through fear he helped dispose of the body, and a short time after they had thrown it in the well, Greenhill tried to kill him, claiming

that his gun went off accidentally. Officers rather believed this story, as they say it would have been a clever ruse to have killed Newberry, too, and hide his body, telling officers that he shot the guard and ran away.

Public interest reached a high point Monday night when a number of cars visited the guard house at plant No. 2, and demanded the negroes be turned over to them. Officers had received information that efforts might be made to obtain the negroes, so they were rushed away only a short time before the crowd arrived at the guard house.

The two negroes have been carried to some unknown point for safe keeping.

Lynchings—1923 Prevented. 1413 Arkansas.

GUARD TWO FROM MOB WHEN FREED BY COURT

Commercial Appeal

Judge Rules Evidence Insufficient to Support Charge.

Memphis Press 3-15-23

SEARCY, Ark., March 14.—Cleared of the charge of attempted assault, J. R. Byers and his 15 year old son, Lum among the neighbors of the Hoketts, for several hours on account of the high feeling caused by the verdict among the neighbors of the Hocketts, whose 12-year old daughter, Naomi, was the victim of an alleged attack.

A large number from that section came up to attend the hearing but were disappointed as the trial was held behind closed doors, only attorneys, witnesses and relatives of the child being present. The hall corridors and stairways leading to the office of Justice A. Neeley before whom the trial was held were filled throughout the two hours of the trial but the crowd was dispersed when the verdict was rendered and the two men kept in Judge Neely's office. The court held that the evidence was insufficient to establish their identity as the assailants of the child who was attacked by the two men last Wednesday at her home, two miles from Beebe as she was returning from school, gagged and bound to a post, the men being frightened away, she succeeded in freeing herself and reported the affair to her father who is crippled.

The child's mother is dead and her two brothers were away from home. Her highly excited and nervous condition made it impossible to get a clear story from her that night but the following day she stated that she recognized the two men though they had handkerchiefs tied over their faces and gave their names as Byers, a man past 65 and his son, neighbors of the Hoketts.

Only five witnesses were used by the state and two by the defense. The girl appeared perfectly calm today and the two defendants showed no signs of nervousness.

Two physicians testified that the girl was not injured in any way. The Hoketts are highly respected people having lived near Beebe for many years.

The Byers moved into this county about four years ago. The two families were neighbors and had always been friendly. The two men were arrested near the Hokett home the day after the alleged assault having come over to join the crowd that had gathered on account of the excitement caused by the affair.

It is believed by some that it will not be safe for the men to return home until the excitement and tense feeling subsides. The men will probably be kept in Searcy under guard tonight.

SPIRIT AWAY NEGRO IN FEAR OF VIOLENCE

Sheriff Takes Man to Jail

After Attempted Assault.

ARKADELPHIA, Ark., June 1.—John Britton, negro, about 19 years old, was arrested early this morning in a rural community eight miles east of Whelen, charged with burglary and attempted assault. It is alleged that a white woman whose husband was away from home, found the negro under her bed just before she was to retire, it having been her womanly custom for many years to make such an inspection before going to her slumbers.

When suddenly discovered, the negro became frightened and plunged out of the home, escaping in the darkness. The country side was aroused and late in the night some white boys with guns captured the black. They were holding him when Deputy Sheriffs Olin Mills and O. C. Hicks of this city reached the scene. Several men of the community made an attempt to take the negro from the officers, it is said, but firmness of the latter prevailed. The negro was taken to Whelen for a preliminary hearing before a justice of the peace, but owing to symptons of a mob gathering the deputies put the negro into their car and hastened him to Arkadelphia where he is in jail. Britton will be given a hearing Saturday.

PRISONER HURRIED FROM HOT SPRINGS

Arkansas Gazette

Talk of Lynching Causes Police Chief to Bring Aged Man Here.

8-17-23

Billy Burke, aged 73, arrested at Hot Springs Wednesday, charged with the kidnaping of J. B. Higgins, aged four and a half, arrived here last night in custody of Chief of Police Oscar Sullivan and was locked up at police headquarters. This morning Chief Sullivan will transfer the prisoner to the penitentiary, where he will be held for safekeeping.

Rumors current in Hot Springs yesterday that a lynching would be attempted caused Chief Sullivan to remove the prisoner.

"Men were talking about the case and I heard several say: 'Let's go get him,'" Chief Sullivan said. "However, I do not believe a lynching would have occurred. County and city officials at a conference yesterday decided that as a matter of precaution Burke should be brought to the penitentiary here."

The Higgins child disappeared from the streets of Hot Springs at 9 o'clock Monday morning. His parents, Mr. and Mrs. Jack Higgins, conduct a cafe on Valley street. A systematic search was conducted for the lad, but no trace of him was found until Wednesday morning, when a farmer reported having heard a child crying in an old shack in which Burke lived.

Officers hurried to the shack and found the child. The boy told a shocking story of mistreatment.

Burke is declared by the police to be a "gin-head." Chief Sullivan said he worked at light jobs occasionally, but had no steady employment.

The aged prisoner declined to talk to a reporter.

Arkansas Man Spirited Away As Mob Gathers

The Atlanta Constitution 8-16-23

Hot Springs, Ark., August 15.—William Burke, 65 years old, arrested in connection with the disappearance of four-year-old J. B. Huggins from his home Monday and said to have been identified by the child as the man who kidnapped him and kept him locked in a deserted shack until his cries attracted a passerby and he was liberated today, was hurriedly taken out of the city late this afternoon by officers when a crowd began to gather about the city jail where he was being held.

Burke is said by the police to have been arrested on several occasions but in each instance he was charged with only petty offenses.

Attracted by the crying of a child passerby today gained entrance to an abandoned shack on the outskirts of Hot Springs and found J. B. Higgins, jr., a four-year-old child who had been missing since Monday locked in the building.

The child, son of a cafe owner, disappeared Monday morning. Search by city and county police and federal officers with the aid of boy scouts and citizens failed to reveal trace of him until a party passing the abandoned building today heard his cries and freed him. He was brought to Hot Springs and announcement made that he would be questioned later.

The boy, weakened by crying and lack of food, told the police a vague story of being led away by a man "wearing a straw hat and dirty white shirt," he declared he was locked in the shack and told that he would not see his parents again. The man returned to the building once, the child said, and had given him a sandwich all he had eaten since Mondy.

An aged man passing the shack today heard sobs of the boy and found the door to the building heavily barred. He notified the police and the child was rescued.

Officers who went to the cabin declared the boy's feet were marked by wounds believed to be rat bites.

MOB VIOLENCE FEARED

Commercial Appeal

Prisoner Held in Bowie County Jail Spirited Away After Warning.

TEXARKANA, Ark., Sept. 30.—Clem Gray, of Titus County, Texas, who was brought to the Bowie County jail at Boston Friday to avoid possible lynching, after the finding of the body of Otis Ballard, near Mount Pleasant, was spirited away from the jail about midnight last night and moved to a secret hiding place, following a telephone warning from officers at Mount Pleasant that an attempt to mob the prisoner before morning probably would be made.

So far as reported, no mob evidence appeared about the jail. Sheriff Baker declined to reveal the new hiding place of Gray, but said he would do everything possible to protect him.

MOB SURROUNDS JAIL SEEKING PRISONERS

The Star

Believed That Three Negroes Alleged to Have Killed Woman Held at Fort Smith.

Fort Smith, Ark., Dec. 29.—Believing that the three negroes who were alleged to have confessed the killing of Mrs. Robert Latimer at her home near Van Buren late yesterday were lodged in the Sebasitan county jail here after being spirited away from the jail at Van Buren early tonight a mob estimated at 500 men surrounded the local jail shortly after 10 o'clock tonight and demanded the prisoners. 12-30-23

Automobiles bearing reinforcements arrived at brief intervals and the strength of the mob grew rapidly. County officers locked all doors to the jail and stationed guards at the window and in the corridors. They warned members of the mob to remain away from the building.

Sheriff Pink Shaw addressed the throng and warned that no person would be permitted to enter the prison. To attempt to force an entrance, the sheriff said, would "invite trouble."

"We don't want bloodshed but we want those negroes," shouted a voice from the mob in reply to the sheriff.

Van Buren, Aark., Dec. 29.JLeaving here in a high powered automobile, Sheriff A. D. Maxey of Crawford county successfully evaded more than 100 men congregated near the jail and disappeared from town with three negroes who, it is alleged, have confessed implication in the death of Mrs. Bob Latimer, who was killed in her home near here yesterday. The destination of the sheriff was said to be the state penitentiary at Little Rock.

GUARDSMEN TAKE NEGROES TO JAIL

Governor of Arkansas Sends Troops.

TEN IN DWELLING

Negroes Surrender When Promised Protection—Judge Summons Jury to Investigate.

1413

Fort Smith, Ark., Dec. 30.—Ten negroes who barricaded themselves in a house in the Gather community five miles from Van Buren, Ark., late today, when white residents threatened a riot as a result of the killing late Friday of Mrs. Robert Latimer surrendered to national guardsmen from Ozark and were lodged in the jail at Van Buren early tonight on charges of night rioting.

A score or more of negroes were hurried to the Van Buren jail by officers, who feared a serious clash between races. The white population offered little or no resistance to the guardsmen, who were ordered to the scene early this afternoon by Gov. T. C. McRae.

The ten negroes, who barricaded themselves in a house, surrendered only after Capt. Otto W. Kayer, in command of the detachment of troops, threatened them with machine gun fire. They were assured protection and finally agreed to accompany the troops to Van Buren.

Quiet Prevails.

Quiet prevailed in the little community early tonight and Captain Kayer said his troops would return to their station at Ozark. No further trouble is expected, the officer said.

Judge James A. Cochrane of the circuit court has called a special grand jury to investigate the killing of Mrs. Latimer. The jury will meet in Van Buren Wednesday.

Three negroes, Spurgeon Ruck, William Bettis and John Clay, the latter only 15 years old, have been arrested in connection with the kiling. Clay is alleged to have made a confession, and officers said he implicated Ruck and Bettis. Clay was in the Crawford county jail at Van Buren, 15 miles from this city, last night. Ruck and Bettis, who were taken to Van Buren yesterday afternoon, were spirited away when a mob of several hundred men formed and threatened to storm the jail early last night.

Mob Searches Jail.

After a committee representing the Van Buren mob had searched the jail at that place without finding Ruck and Bettis, the mob dispersed. Two hours later, more than 500 men and boys gathered here and demanded the two negroes, believing they had been brought to the Sebastian county jail. Threats of the mob to storm the jail were met by Sheriff Shaw with threats to swear in 100 special deputies and arm them with riot guns to resist any attack on the prison.

For nearly four hours the mob, apparently without leadership, milled around the jail yard. During that time Sheriff Shaw and several attorneys addressed the crowd, urging that the law be permitted to take its course. Their pleas were heeded shortly after midnight, when the mob quietly dispersed, after being refused permission to search the jail. Guards, heavily armed, remained within the jail throughout the night and today, however, as a precaution against another attempt to force an entrance to the building.

While officers here and at Van Buren would not divulge the whereabouts of Ruck and Bettis it was understood here tonight that the men were

n route to the state penitentiary a Little Rock.

Trouble at Catcher.

Following the disbanding of the mob here early today, everything appeared quiet in the two counties until about noon, when trouble was reported brewing in the Catcher settlement, where Mrs. Latimer lived. The first of these reports told of the division of the community into two armed camps, white and negro, while later messages said the negro residents were being driven out and their homes burned.

The troops arrived in Van Buren about 5 o'clock and after a brief conference with Crawford county authorities, proceeded to the scene of the riot, where they set about rounding up the negroes. With more than a score of negroes in their charge the troops approached the building in which the 11 blacks were barricaded, demanding their surrender. The demand was met and the troops departed for Van Buren, while the crowd of white men which had witnessed the round up dispersed and went to their homes.

At Little Rock.

Little Rock, Dec. 30.—Spurgeon Ruck and William Bettis, negroes, accused of attacking and killing a white woman Friday at Van Buren, which resulted in mob demonstrations last night and today, were brought to Little Rock today by Sheriff A. D. Haxey of Crawford county. Ruck was placed in the state penitentiary and Bettis in the county jail here.

NEGROES SOUGHT BY HOWLING MOB

Confession of Two That They Killed White Woman Drives Citizens Into Fury

VAN BUREN, ARK., Dec. 29.—Leaving here in a high powered automobile, Sheriff A. D. Maxey of Crawford county, successfuly evaded more than one hundred men congregated near the jail, and disappeared from town with three negroes, who, it is alleged, have confessed implication in the death of Mrs. Bob Latimer, who was killed in her home near here yesterday. The destination of the sheriff was said to have been the state penitentiary at Little Rock.

MOB SOON GATHERS.

FORT SMITH, ARK., Dec. 29.—Crowds of men, which gathered late today around the Crawford county jail at Van Buren, where three negroes were held in connection with the death yesterday of Mrs. Robert Latimer, were believd to have been outwitted tonight when word circulated around that the prisoners had been spirited away by officers.

The negroes, John Clay, a lad of 15, Spurgeon Ruck and William Bettis, were taken to Van Buren this afternoon, after being hid under guard here for several hours. Clay and Ruck, who were arrested this morning, are alleged to have confessd the killing of Mrs. Latimer and implicated Bettis, who was taken in custody last night.

Shortly after the prisoners were removed to Van Buren a crowd of men gathered and threatened to storm the jail. Officers addressed the mob from the jail steps and ordered the men to disperse. The crowd withdrew to the edge of the court yard, where they remained for more than two hours, finally mingling with other crowds in the streets.

Automobiles bearing reinforcements arrived at brief intervals and the strength of the mob grew rapidly. County officers locked all doors to the jail and stationed guards at the windows and in the corridors. They warned members of the mob to remain away from the jail building.

Sheriff Pink Shaw addressed the throng and warned that no person would be permitted to enter prison. To attempt to force an entrance, the sheriff said, would "invite trouble."

"We don't want bloodshed, but we want those negroes," shouted a voice from the mob in reply to the sheriff.

Quiet prevailed in Van Buren early tonight, although the streets were filled with men and boys, many of them from the Catcher community, five miles away, where Mrs. Latimer was killed.

Mrs. Latimer's unconscious form was found in her home late yesterday by a neighbor. The woman had been shot in the back and beaten about the head. She died early last night.

MAN ATTACK ON WOMAN IS ADMITTED BY NEGROES

Crowds Surround Jail at Fort Smith.

THREE BLACKS ARE HELD

Mrs. Ben Latimer, Van Buren, Victim of Brutal Assault, Buried. Officers Fear Waiting Crowd Prisoners Spirited Away.

FORT SMITH, Ark., Dec. 29.—Believing that the negroes who are alleged to have confessed to officers their complicity in the killing of Mrs. Effie Latimer, of Crawford County, who were spirited out of the Crawford County jail at 6 o'clock tonight, were being held in the county jail here, a crowd of Crawford County citizens estimated at more than 500 have congregated about the Sebastian County jail.

With the continuous arrival of automobiles bearing reinforcements local county officers have locked all doors to the pail, placed guards at every window and in the corridors and have forbidden anyone to approach the building.

Sheriff Pink Shaw at 10 o'clock tonight arrdessed the growing crowd and warned them that he would allow no one to enter the jail and to attempt to do so would invite trouble.

"We don't want bloodshed, but we want those negroes," shouted a voice from the crowd.

Practically all of Catcher settlement was at the funeral of Mrs. Latimer this afternoon, which was held from her home. The woman, who was found in a horribly mangled condition, was said to have identified one of her assailants before she died. She was attacked while alone in her farmhouse Friday and was discovered in an unconscious condition by a neighbor.

Two negroes arrested early today by Deputy Sheriff Bushmiaer and who gave their names as John Clay and Spurgeon Ruck, 15 and 25 years of age, respectively, were said to have made a complete confession of the crime and implicated William Bettis, another negro who lives near the Latimer home and who was arrested Friday night and brought to Fort Smith.

Late this afternoon officers appeared at the Crawford County jail entrance and from the jail steps told the crowd not to congregate at the jail. The notice served to move a mob back to the edge of the courthouse lawn where groups of men continued to congregate. For more than two hours violence was feared but unless something unforeseen develops it is believed that no violence will result.

Tonight the streets of Van Buren were filled but all was quiet. The settlement itself, where the crime was committed, is well represented in the throng, however.

VAN BUREN, Ark., Dec. 29.—Leaving here in a high powered automobile, Sheriff A. D. Maxey, of Crawford County, successfully evaded more than one hundred men congregated near the jail, and disappeared from town with the three negroes, who, it is alleged, have confessed implication in the death of Mrs. Bob Latimer, who was killed in her farmhouse near Van Buren yesterday. The destination of the sheriff was said to have been the state penitentiary at Little Rock.

Shortly after the sheriff's party had left the city, several automobiles, and one truck filled with men, obviously from the surrounding country, passed through here headed toward Fort Smith.

Provided they were in pursuit of the sheriff's party, the chance that they will catch up is remote, for the officers are believed to be traveling in a speedier machine and have a comfortable lead.

Neither of the automobile parties passed through the main residence sections of Fort Smith, which is almost a necessity if they keep to passable roads. They may have reached outlying districts, however, and mixed with traffic before watchers, who were on the lookout, were informed. Persons in Van Buren, who knew of the sheriff's plans said that the officer may not have taken the Fort Smith road.

NEGROES RUSHED TO JAIL TO PREVENT CLASH WITH WHITES

Blacks Barricade Themselves in House but Surrender to Guards men; Charged With Killing Woman; Threat of Attack With Machine Gun Brings Results; Quiet Restored by Troops

FORT SMITH, ARK., Dec. 30.—Ten negroes who barricaded themselves in a house in the Catcher community, five miles from Vanburen, Ark., late today, when white residents threatened a riot as a result of the killing late Friday of Mrs. Robert Latimer, surrendered to national guardsmen from Ozark, and were lodged in the jail at Vanburen early tonight on charges of night riding.

A score or more of negroes were hurried to the Vanburen jail by officers who feared a serious clash between the races. The white population offered little or no resistance to the guardsmen who were ordered to the scene early this afternoon by Governor T. C. McRae.

The ten negroes who barricaded themselves in a house, surrendered only after Captain Otto W. Kayer, in command of the detachment of troops, threatened them with machine gun fire. They were assured protection and finally agreed to accompany the troops to Vanburen.

Quiet prevailed in the little community early tonight and Captain Kayer said his troops would return to their station at Ozark. No further trouble is feared, the officers said.

Judge James A. Cochrane, of the circuit court has called a special grand jury to investigate the killing of Mrs. Latimer. The jury will meet in Vanburen Wednesday.

Three negroes, Spurgeon Ruck, William Bettis and John Clay, the latter only 15 years of age, have been arrested in connection with the killing. Clay is alleged to have made a confession and officers said he implicated Ruck and Bettis. Clay was in the Crawford county jail at Vanburen, fifteen miles from this city, last night. Ruck and Bettis who were taken to Vanburen yesterday afternoon, were spirited away when a mob of several hundred men formed and threatened to storm the jail early last night.

After a committee representing the Vanburen mob had searched the jail at that place without finding Ruck and Bettis, the mob dispersed. Two hours later more than five hundred men and boys gathered here and demanded the two negroes, believing they had been brought to the Sebastian county jail. Threats of the mob to storm the jail were met by Sheriff Shaw with threats to swear in 100 special deputies and arm them with riot guns to resist any attack on the prison.

Address Crowd

For nearly four hours, the mob, apparently without leadership, milled around the jail yard. During that time Sheriff Shaw and several attorneys addressed the crowd, urging that the law be permitted to take its course. Their pleas were heeded shortly after midnight, when the mob quietly dispersed. After being refused permission to search the jail. Guards, heavily armed, remained within the jail throughout the night and today, however, as a precaution against another attempt to force an entrance to the building.

While officers here and at Vanburen would not divulge the whereabouts of Ruck and Bettis, it was understood here tonight that the men were en route to the state penitentiary at Little Rock.

NEGRO IS LYNCHED

JACKSONVILLE, FLA., Dec. 30.—The body of a young negro man, riddled with bullets and his head crushed with an axe was found in a wooded section near Dinsmore, six miles west of Jacksonville at 6 o'clock this afternoon. Authorities were told by residents of that vicinity that four unidentified white men had carried him to the spot in an automobile, fired several bullets into his body and then one of them struck him in the head with an axe J. S. Geiger, justice of the peace, received a telephone call shortly before 7 o'clock from a man who refused to give his name. The man told the judge to go to Grand Crossing immediately that a party of white men was about to "lynch a negro." Ten minutes later Mr. Geiger received another call that a negro had been lynched at Dinsmore, three miles beyond Grand Crossing. He was attempting to organize a posse at the time the second call was received.

Officials have been unable to learn the reason for the lynching. The victim is believed to be Gene Burman, 24 years old, of Jacksonville. After the lynching, the white men returned to their automobile and sped away, going in the opposite direction from Jacksonville.

Today's lynching follows closely the finding of the headless body of a negro in McGirt's creek 12 miles southwest of Jacksonville last night. The body was weighted down with two pieces of railroad iron and apparently had been in the water about ten days. It was first believed the body was that of a white man, but today it was determined it was that of a negro. There were no marks on the body, but the head had been severed with a sharp instrument. There was no evidence of a struggle.

The body of the negro who was lynched was identified at the morgue tonight as that of Gene Burnam. The identification was made by his sister who could assign no reason for the lynching.

Following the lynching and the finding of the negro's decapitated body in the creek last night, police today removed Joe Fain and Joe Jones, negroes who are said to have confessed to robbing and shooting W. S. Humphries a druggist, on the night of December 22, from the police station to the county jail for safe keeping.

Shot By Merchant

Early today an unidentified negro was shot and killed by a storekeeper who, seeing the man hiding behind a chair in front of his store fired six times at him. One of the shots struck the negro in the chest. A pistol was found nearby, it was said.

The body found in the creek was weighted down with two pieces of railroad iron, one of which was fastened by wires to the wrists, around the waist to the right ankle. The other was fastened by wires to the left ankle. Belief was expressed that the man had been killed elsewhere and taken to the creek. The spot where the body was found is in one of the most secluded sections of the county, being 3 miles from the nearest residence. The body was found by a resident of that vicinity who saw a small portion of the body, which was in an upright position, protruding above the surface of the water.

Lynchings—1923 Prevented.

California.

1414

MEXICAN POLICE BAFFLE D.C. ATTEMPT AT LYNCHING

Washington Eagle

Mexican Police Authorities Demand Fair Trial for Negro Criminal.

3/24/23.

Tia Juana, Lower California, Mexico, March.—(Pacific News Bureau)—Chester Carlton, colored, confined in the local jail charged with murder, the outcome of a pistol duel a few weeks ago in which Carleton shot and fatally wounded a Mexican named Gonzales, owes his life to the nerve of the local police commander.

A few hours after the murder, the police commander was waited upon by a determined body of would-be lynchers from the American side, demanding that the Negro be turned over to them.

"What do you wish with him," demanded the Mexican authority.

"Oh, we merely want to give a little demonstration as to how we deal with his kind down South," replied the mob leader.

The Mexican commander, heavily armed, glanced around to see if his police were properly stationed, and then replied: "There he is. Take him if you wish."

Gloating over their anticipated pleasures of mob torture, they made a rush for the Negro, but were halted by a command of "Stop" from the Mexican commander.

In a quite voice he merely said, "Take him if you wish, but before you get him you will have to get me and every one of my 150 heavily armed police. The Mexican Government holds me and my men responsible for the safe keeping of all criminals, regardless of race or color, and we are responsible to the Government with our lives if anything happens to this prisoner. Now take him if you wish."

The latest reports state that Carleton is still safe in the local jail, heavily guarded, waiting for a fair trial before the Mexican courts.

MEXICAN POLICE BAFFLE LYNCHERS

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Pittsburgh American

(Special to Pittsburgh American)

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Prisoner Wounded, Chained to Bed, While Guards Hold Off Mob

3-26-23

SAN BERNARDINO, Cal.—John Henry Brown, who was captured by officers in a gun duel, prevented the lynching of Joseph Brown, a suspect held in the Colton Jail.

The bandit, chained to a cot at the General Hospital with a bullet wound through his back, was identified by J. S. Endicott, a Colton rancher, as the terrorist who held him up at the point of a gun and robbed him of $12 early yesterday morning.

Colton residents are enraged and guards were assigned to the hospital

Lynchings—1923
Prevented

Florida.

1415

PORTER TAKEN FROM TRAIN, BY MOB AND NEARLY LYNCHED

New York, Feb. 16.—George Blair, a Pullman porter, living at 132 West 139th street, narrowly missed being "lynched at the hands of a mob at Waldo, Fla., where he says he was delivered over to a mob by the sheriff of that town after having been turned over to the sheriff by a train conductor on the Southern Air line because he had asked a white woman for her Pullman ticket.



Geo. Blair

The mob took him to the outskirts of the town where they prepared to burn him to death. He was being tied to the limb of a tree and the funeral pyre was built beneath his feet. As the rope tightened, two white men appeared and ordered him cut down and released.

Blair has fairly recovered from his fright and has requested the Pullman company to give him a run "somewhere in the North."

Negro Slayer Spirited Away To Avoid Mob

Albany White Man Shot to Death by Gainesville, Fla., Negro.

Gainesville, Fla., February 25.—Arthur Johnson, negro, who was arrested early today and charged with shooting to death H. C. Cross, 23, of Albany, Ga., a mechanic, employed by the Florida state road department's maintenance camp here, has been spirited away from the county jail here because of fear of mob violence, it was learned tonight. Officers, other than saying that he had been removed from the jail for safekeeping, refused to discuss the case.

Cross was shot to death while making a purchase in a store here last night. His negro assailant was believed to have been the one whom he brushed against on the street a short time before and who made the threat to "get him."

Johnson refused to talk. It was said that when arrested by the officers a .38 calibre pistol with two empty shells, was found in his possession. Cross was shot twice with similar size cartridges.

A crowd of about 75 men gathered in front of the jail following Johnson's arrest, but there was no trouble.

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VIOLENCE IS FEARED

Negro Charged With Shooting at Albany Is Transferred

(Associated Press)

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Drives Off Mob Storming Jail; Eighteen Seized and Put in Cells

N Y C EVE. WORLD
MARCH 2, 1923

Florida Sheriff Slams Door in Faces of Armed Men Seeking Alleged Negro Slayer.

JACKSONVILLE, Fla., March 2.—Sheriff's forces at Putnam County Jail, Palatka, last night repulsed a party of Gainesville men who stormed the place in an effort to get Arthur Johnson, a Negro.

The man under arrest, it is alleged, shot and killed F. L. Cross in Gainesville Saturday night, according to a report reaching here to-day.

More than fifty shots were fired by the mob into the jail, one striking Sheriff Hagan in the left hand. The Sheriff slammed the jail door in the face of the mob, which retreated after shooting through the doors and windows. A fifty-foot rope was left behind.

PALATKA, Fla., March 2.—Eighteen employees of the State Road Department are lodged in the Alabama County Jail to-day on charges of having attempted to storm the Putnam County Jail at Palatka early this morning, but were beaten off by Sheriff Hagan. Thirteen were captured in automobiles, supposedly retreating from the scene, and five others were taken into custody in Gainesville on suspicion.

The mob reached Palatka shortly after midnight. They went to the Putnam County Jail, where Lige Lawrence, a negro, was lodged. Lawrence was brought here after Crawford Smith, a white man, had been shot and killed in a place of business conducted by Lawrence at Gainesville, Fla. It was alleged Ed Lawrence, a brother of the Negro in jail here, did the shooting.

at Alachua as the result of a telephone message to that town from the Putnam County jail.

Elifah Lawrence was the Negro whom the mob sought to get out of jail. He conducted a business place at Gainsville, Fla., in which Clifford Smith, white man had been shot and killed. A brother of the Negro, Ed Lawrence, is alleged to have done the shooting. It is expected that a special grand jury will be called immediately to act on the attack.

LYNCHING MOB STORMS FLORIDA JAIL BUT IS REPULSED.

Louisville News
Louisville, Ky.

Florida Police Fight Men Seeking Brother Of Alleged Slayer Of White Man.

3-10-23

Palatka, Fla., Mar. 8.—After making an unsuccessful effort to storm the Putnam County jail here and get a Negro prisoner, eleven white men members of a lynching crowd said to have numbered 16 were captured early today and locked in the Alachua jail.

The attackers were repulsed at the jail by Sheriff Hagan, who was shot in the left hand by one of the bullets fired by the crowd. Upon retreating, the mobe left a 50-foot rope behind. The 11 were apprehended by the police authorities

MOB SPIRIT WANES IN FLORIDA TOWN

N Y C TELEGRAM
MARCH 3. 1923

Twelve Held in Attack on Palatka Jail—Negro Under Close Guard.

JACKSONVILLE, Fla., Saturday. — Arthur Johnson, a negro, brought here early today by officers from Palatka, Fla., for safe keeping to prevent possible violence following the storming of the jail at Palatka yesterday, is being closely guarded.

A crowd of men which clashed with Sheriff Hagan, resulting in the shooting of the officer in the hand after he had hit one of the men over the head with the butt of his revolver, was never certain that the negro they wanted was in jail there, it is said.

Meanwhile the mob spirit has died down considerably, and information from Palatka stated that twelve men arrested at Gainesville, Fla., on orders from Sheriff Hagan, would be taken to Palatka today and arraigned on charges of attempting to commit a felony, assault with intent to murder, and shooting into a dwelling. A thirteenth man held in connection with the mobbing of the jail had not been identified by the Sheriff at last reports.

A majority of the men held are said to be members of the State Road Department Maintenance Camp at Gainesville. Bonds were arranged for them late yesterday by Judge Calhoun, County Judge of Putnam County.

Johnson is charged with slaying H. C. Cross, of Albany, Ga., an employe of the State Road Department, who was shot to death in a store last Saturday night by a negro. A rope was found in one of the automobiles in which the men who approached the jail were riding, according to officers.

The fight at the jail was described as a battle filled with narrow escapes. A number of shots were fired when the Sheriff refused to yield to the demands of the men, struck the man nearest him and slammed the jail door.

Bullets fired into the building narrowly missed the Sheriff's wife and daughter. it was reported.

Sheriff Who Saw His Duty an Did It.

The Appeal
Commercial Appeal

Surely there should be a limit to the growing business of a mob undertaking to be judge, jury and sheriff every time a crime is committed. A few days ago it developed that after a very successful lynching in Texas the wrong individual had been killed.

Part of Florida is just over one reign of terror during which several people were murdered. 3-3-23

A mob made a charge on a jail at Palatka night before last and the sheriff gave battle. The mob was beaten off. Now it is reported that about a dozen of the members are under arrest and in jail. Every time a mob lynches an individual it lynches the law. Every time a citizen takes the law into his own hands he is in rebellion against the law of his country. That Florida sheriff who refused to be "overpowered" did a service to his state. We wish more of his sort were in office.

Would-Be Lynchers Foiled

Norfolk Journal & Guide
3-31-23

Palatka, Fla.—The fight against lynching gains ground. A mob which a few days ago charged the jail, intending to lynch a Negro accused of murder, was repulsed by the sheriff. Thirteen members of the mob were later arrested and jailed on the charge of assault with intent to murder. On January 29th, North Carolina troops were rushed to Whiteville just in time to disperse a mob that was attempting to take from the jail a prisoner charged with murder. On February 9th, a detachment of Texas rangers was ordered to Waco to guard against the possibility of mob violence in the case of Roy Mitchell, a confessed murderer. In January, a South Carolina mob took a Negro suspect from jail, but for some reason had a change of heart and returned him uninjured to the officers. Norfolk, Va.

During last year twenty-two indictments were returned against members of mobs in Georgia. Four were convicted and sentenced to the penitentiary. Others are still to be tried. Virginia courts recently convicted a member of a lynching party, and sent him to the penitentiary.

Light on Mob Psychology

Twelve men are in jail in Palatka, Fla., in default of bonds of $15,000 each, on charges of being members of a mob that attempted to storm the jail a few nights ago and secure a prisoner, evidently with the purpose of lynching him. Houston Post

The plot failed and the conspirators are identified and in jail because the county had a sheriff resourceful and courageous enough to do his duty in the face of overwhelming odds. When the mob attacked the jail, the sheriff, although wounded, fought back, and routed the whole gang, chasing them down the road, while firing upon them with a shotgun. In the battle, he got close enough to the men to recognize them. Houston, Texas

The example of Sheriff P. M. Hagan of Palatka is commended to all peace officers who may be attacked by mobs. He showed a spirit of bravery that should characterize every officer sworn to uphold the law. His heroism is as great as if he had repelled a band of foreign invaders in time of war, for lynchers are enemies as dangerous to the country as alien enemies. This Florida county is to be congratulated on having a sheriff of the character of Hagan. 3-17-23

Incidentally, this affair at Palatka throws some light on the psychology of mobs. These men, when they could not get into the jail, deliberately fired into it, although they must have known that the sheriff's family resided in the building. The sheriff's wife and daughter narrowly escaped being struck by bullets. A more cowardly or dastardly action could scarcely be imagined. Furthermore, it is evidence of the utter recklessness and disregard of human life, and unconcern as to whether justice is honestly meted out. The average mob is crazed with blood lust, and is not open to reason. Bent on revenge, it is satisfied when the blood of some one, innocent or guilty, is spilled. This is a factor in mob psychology that makes the mob the menace that it is.

One other feature of this episode is noteworthy. One man, and wounded at that, put to flight a dozen other men heavily armed. No clearer example is needed of the cowardly spirit of mobs. They are brave only when they feel that they are unknown, and that they have every advantage.

In nine cases out of ten, any peace officer, armed as he is with the law, can bluff lawless mobs, if he will show them he means business in resisting them. In support of this statement, the record of lynchings and attempted lynchings last year shows that more lynchings were prevented by officers than were permitted by them. No man should be a sheriff who is not willing to defend a prisoner with his life. When there are more such officers, there will be fewer occasions to defend prisoners. For mobs, inherently cowardly, will not risk exposure or life, where they know there is real danger.

18 HELD AFTER ATTEMPTED LYNCHING

Baltimore Herald
Louisville
3-14-23

Gainesville, Fla., March 8.—Eighteen men have been arested and held in all as the result of an attempt on the part of a mob jto take Arthur Johnson, Negro, charged with shooting and killing F. L. Cross, of this city, from the Putman county jail last night.

WOULD-BE LYNCHERS FOILED

Little Rock Ark. Gazette
April 14-1923
Edwards Mag.

The fight against lynching gains ground. A mob which a few days ago charged the jail at Palatka, Florida, intending to lynch a Negro accused of murder, was repulsed by the sheriff. Thirteen members of the mob were later arrested and jailed on the charge of assault with intent to murder. On January 29th, North Carolina troops were rushed to Whiteville just in time to disperse a mob that was attempting to take from the jail a prisoner charged with murder. On February 9th a detachment of Texas Rangers was ordered to Waco to guard against the possibility of mob violence in the case of Roy Mitchell, a confessed murderer. In January, a South Carolina mob took a Negro suspect from jail, but for some reason had a change of heart and returned him uninjured to the officers.

During last year twenty-two indictments were returned against members of mobs in Georgia. Four were convicted and sentenced to the penitentiary. Others are still to be tried. Virginia courts recently convicted a member of a lynching party, and sent him to the penitentiary.

...TTLE RO... ARK. GAZETTE
MARCH ...923

A LYNCHING THAT DIDN'T HAPPEN.

Shortly after midnight Thursday a mob appeared at the jail at Palatka, Fla., where a negro charged with murder was believed to be confined. Sheriff Hagan opened the jail door and was confronted by armed men. But the sheriff was not "overpowered," even though at one stage of the proceedings he was shot in the hand. He wasn't that kind of a sheriff. Instantly realizing what was on foot, he slammed the jail door. Then the mob began shooting into the building. Fifteen shots penetrated the door and others were fired through the windows, but no white flag was hoisted by Sheriff Hagan and the mob got itself away. A rope was left behind.

But that is not all. Early next morning 19 men were arrested. Seven were released when Sheriff Hagan failed to identify them. But 12 men were identified by the sheriff and they are held in jail at Gainesville. According to the dispatches from that place the authorities say charges of assault to kill, shooting into an occupied building and conspiring to commit a felony will be lodged against them and it is expected that a special Grand Jury will be called immediately.

These Florida authorities are evidently very obstinate in their opinion that the courts should not be supplanted by lynch law.

WARNING BY COPS STOPS FLORIDA MOB

Courier-Journal
10-23-23

Deland, Florida, October 22.—About eighty automobiles, estimated to contain 300 men, at midnight drove slowly around the country jail here where Charles Brown, Joe Brown and Clara Brown, all of Boston, Mass., are being held charged with the murder near Daytona of D. Howard Usher, who died early today of bullet wounds inflicted, according to police, by three persons who had hired his taxicab.

County and city officers, it was reported, receiving information that a crowd of men was assembling outside the city, sent word that any effort to remove the prisoners would be resisted to the utmost. After circling around the jail, the cars drove off.

Lynchings—1923. Prevented.

Georgia.

1416

WEEK'S BEST EDITORIAL

A Lynching Frustrated

Governor Hardwick declared the city of Savannah, Ga., in a state of insurrection following the attempt of a mob to get possession of a negro held there in the Chatham County jail. The governor was not far wrong. Mob violence may be characterized as insurrection wherever and wherever it attempts to supersede the orderly processes of the courts.

Prompt and decisive action of local authorities prevented the mob from having its way pending the arrival of national guard troops to preserve order. Arrival of the troops put down the last flickering display of "insurrection."

The reputation of Georgia for lynchings, in many of which local peace officers have been accused of failing properly to exert themselves in the prisoner's behalf, ought to be improved by the Savannah incident. Suppression of mob violence is in most instances simply a question of a determined attitude on the part of officers intrusted with the prisoner's safety. A mob is usually intimidated by a determined show of resistance. It is deplorable when such incidents lead, as did the one in Savannah, to the shedding of blood. But it must be remembered that a lynching party, while it may assume to be an agency of speedy justice, is intent upon violating the law.

When it becomes generally recognized, however, that any attempt of a mob to take the law into its own hands will be met and treated as insurrection, such occurrences will become rare. Gradually they will disappear.

Texas has no license whatever, on its own record, to point its finger at Georgia and accuse that state of lawlessness. But a triumph of law in Georgia is indirectly a triumph in Texas, and conversely, by the force of example.

—From the Galveston Daily News.

COST STATE $3,390 GUARD

NEGRO IN CHATHAM JAIL

SAVANNAH, GA., Press, AUG 8 1923

Deficiency Resolution Introduced in House to Provide For Payment of Militia For Services in Protecting Walter Lee, Who Was Hanged Friday.

Payment to the local military of $3,390.72 for guarding Walter Lee, colored, who was hanged Friday for an assault upon a woman, will be made promptly upon passage of a deficiency resolution introduced into the house of representatives yesterday by the chairman of the appropriations committee, a telegram from Gen. Charles H. Cox, adjutant general of the state, announced.

No Difficulty Yet.

While no difficulty has been encountered so far in getting the bill okehed, payment will be affected seriously through the failure of the appropriation bill to include that amount, the telegram states. There is every reason to believe the deficiency resolution will pass both houses and be approved by Governor Walker, it is stated.

Referred to Committee.

The military was called upon to keep a large mob from succeeding in its effort to storm the Chatham county jail to get the negro.

The resolution was introduced by Representative Culpepper of Fayette, who is chairman of the appropriations committee, and it was referred to his committee.

The Mob and the Law.

The attack by a frenzied mob on the jail at Savannah, Ga., culminating in the death of one man and the wounding of others, is another blot on our civilization.

Such outbreaks are not peculiar to any geographical section of the country. They have occurred from time to time throughout the states wherever reason has been dethroned by passion. Neither their frequency nor the heinousness of the offense that serves to bring them about, however, can excuse them or wipe out the stain they leave.

According to the report sent out from Savannah, the sheriff and other officers only did their duty. Entreaties warnings and threats had been exhausted before a shot was fired.

The anomalous tendencies of human nature sometimes baffle analysis. The mob spirit, perhaps as nothing else, illustrates the inconsistency of mankind.

The electorate of a county chooses the men who shall preserve the peace and enforce the laws that stand as a guarantee of that peace. The sheriff is the chief peace officer of the county. He is required to take a solmen oath before assuming the duties of his office that he will administer affairs according to legally prescribed methods.

We assume that the Georgia law is similar to that of our own state. In Tennessee the sheriff is sworn to protect prisoners in his keeping. Failure to do so automatically removes him from office.

Yet it is common knowledge that in this state, as in others, men have banded themselves together, marched to the doors of a jail and demanded of their chief peace officer that he disregard his oath and deliver into their hands for execution one of his prisoners, the evidence against whom has not been presented to the grand jury.

Refusal of the sheriff to do so does not imply that he condones the offense or sympathizes with the offender. It means merely a determination on his part to see that there is a conviction before there is an execution, that when the penalty is applied the guilty and not the innocent shall suffer. And guilt or innocence can be ascertained only by a fair and impartial trial as provided by law.

It is unfortunate that sometimes a man whose deportment in every other respect is above reproach will lend his presence or encouragement to a gathering that seeks to take the law into its own hands.

Usually the crime responsible for lynchings or attempted lynchings in the south is one that calls for retribution swift and sure. But as abhorrent as is the crime, it should not bring about the overthrow of reason by passion, lest another crime be added by the wreaking of vengeance on an innocent suspect and the guilty be permitted to escape.

Men who believe in the law should never attempt to nullify that provision of the federal constitution pertaining to prosecution in criminal cases or demand that a sworn officer of the law violate the oath of office required of him.

Victory For Law at Savannah

In proclaiming martial law at Savannah, Governor Hardwick officially pronounces that city in a state of insurrection. That is surely an accurate characterization at least of that part of the city's population which has participated in the riot growing out of the attempt to lynch a prisoner in the local jail, and of those who are in sympathy with the violence indulged in there.

When the Savannah mob attempted to storm the jail and take the prisoner from the authorities they were as truly insurgents as if they were staging a rebellion against the government with any other purpose in view. For it was their intention to supplant the constituted authorities and to set up a super-government, temporarily. Had they succeeded in killing the prisoner, they would have been guilty not only of murder, but of overthrowing the local government.

The defeat of the mob constitutes an important victory for the law in a section where such a victory is especially significant. Events in Georgia in recent years have created the impression that officers of the law, influenced by public sentiment, were prone to wink at mob violence.

The outcome of this attempt at lynching puts Georgia in a much more favorable light before the country. It demonstrates that the law can be upheld in Georgia as elsewhere. The prompt action of Governor Hardwick in backing up the local authorities in the suppression of violence and the maintenance of order is to his credit.

Enough has already occurred to impress the lawless element in Savannah that the lynching business is not what it once was. Now if alleged members of the mob who were captured be proven guilty and punished to the limit of the law, mob rule in Georgia will be seriously shaken.

The Savannah officers who resisted the mob with such courage and determination are to be congratulated. The South needs more officers of their character. They have helped to hasten the day w' mob violence will be unknown.

Columbus, Ga. Enquirer-Sun
JUL 4 1923

The Mob Spirit Rebuked.

The Savannah negro for whom, about a week ago, a mob clamored that it might lynch him in punishment for a crime he was alleged to have committed, has been duly indicted, tried by constituted authority, found guilty and sentenced to be hanged. This is the answer to those who composed the mob, one of the members of which was shot to death and one or two others wounded. This is the answer, or should be, to all men who undertake to substitute mob violence for the majesty of the law.

If the mob had succeeded in its undertaking it would not have wiped out the crime which was committed. On the contrary it would have given encouragement to other mobs which might be of the same frame of mind to undertake the do the same thing. And when mobs rule, reason flees, and only blind passion leads to the commission of deeds from which the particiwould turn in horror.

The prompt trial and its outcome constitute a rebuke to the mob spirit; it is more than that—it is evidenc of the fact that we can with confidence look to constiuted authority to right the wrongs that have been committed insofar as those wrongs can be righted, whereas, under mob rule no wrong is righted, but an additional stain is put upon the state.

MOB IS DRIVEN AWAY

Armed Men Seek Negroes at Milledgeville School but Leave Empty Handed

ATLANTA, GA., Aug. 8—A crowd of unmasked men carrying guns visited the Georgia training school for boys at Milledgeville, Ga., last night and demanded of Dr. H. C. Wood, acting superintendent of the reformatory that he turn over to them a negro man and negro woman, employes of the institution, Dr. Wood said today in a telephone communication. The men left when Dr. Wood threatened them with a shot gun, he said.

DIVORCEE IS HELD IN VALDOSTA JAIL

Statenville, Ga., September 21.—Georgia court history was made here yesterday when Mrs. Joe Copeland after being convicted of voluntary manslaughter and sentenced to serve two years in the penitentiary, had to be taken from the court room under a heavy guard and rushed to a neighboring county for safe keeping.

Mrs. Copeland was placed on trial here Wednesday on a charge of murder in connection with the death of John Roberts, of Mayday, Ga. Since the shooting high feeling, officers say, has prevailed because of the prominence and the many relatives of Roberts and Mrs. Copeland residing in this vicinity.

When the trial started large crowds came here resulting in armed guards being placed at all entrances to the court house. Throughout, the trial, however, there was no demonstration.

Reports from Valdosta today say Mrs. Copeland and her armed escort arrived there safely. She is now confined in the Lowndes county jail awaiting appeal.

All day yesterday armed guards patrolled the court house. The crowds in the court room and outside caused considerable disturbance when the verdict was read but were held in check by the officers.

Mrs. Copeland had plead self-defense. She testified she shot Roberts after he had struck her with a stick when she and her companion, E. A. Goodson, engaged in a dispute with Roberts at the Mayday railroad station. The pistol was carried in a paper bag, along with her toilet articles, she testified. She jerked it from the bag, she testified, when Roberts had accused her of improper relations with Goodson and after he had struck her.

Other witnesses corroborated her story.

After the shooting Mrs. Copeland fled to a nearby woods and Goodson boarded a train for Jacksonville, which arrived at Mayday soon after the affair. Mrs. Copeland was apprehended the next day and two nights later Goodson was arrested at the home of a relative in Jacksonville. He was returned to Echols county and held on a charge of misdemeanor.

Negro Arrested.

MACON, Ga., July 17.—J. L. Lundy, a negro, has been lodged in the Bibb County jail for safekeeping on a charge of attacking a 14-year-old white girl in Monroe County. Lundy was arrested in Cleveland, Ga., where it was learned he had gone through relatives and a tailoring shop in Macon, where the negro had placed an order for a suit of clothes.

ATTEMPT CHARGED TO LYNCH NEGROES AFTER SHOOTING

Rome, Ga., October 13.—(Special.) That an attempted lynching was frustrated here early Thursday morning became known here today.

Six masked men took part in an attempt to get Ada Robertson, negress, who seriously shot Emery Maynor, Chattooga county farmer. The men appeared at the jail and demanded that Jailer W. O. Johnson deliver the woman to them. They were told that she had already been taken to the Fulton county jail in Atlanta.

Removal of the negress was due to a warning received by Sheriff Wilson through a negro prisoner. His wife, hearing of the impending attempt, wrote him a note telling of the would-be lynchers' plans. The negro turned the note over to Sheriff Wilson and the negress was sent to Atlanta early Wednesday night, several hours before the effort was made to get her.

Jailer Johnson says he did not recognize any of the six men who appeared at the jail. They all wore handkerchiefs over their faces, which made them unrecognizable.

The sheriff's office to keep the attempted lynching secret were successful until this morning.

10-13-23

Ada Robertson, negress, who Wednesday shot and wounded Emery Maynor, Chattooga county farmer, has been in the Atlanta prison since her arrest for the shooting, officials at the Atlanta stajton Friday night stated She was rushed here immediately following her arrest to prevent any outbreak of mob violence, officers stated.

Masked Men Attempt To Lynch Girl

ROME, Ga., Oct. 18—An attempt to lynch a colored woman, who had defended her "honor" against a white farmer, became known here Saturday morning, when news leaked out from the sheriff's office of an incident, which if carried through would outrival Congo brutality.

Miss Ada Robertson, "belle" of this city, shot and seriously wounded Emery Maynor, a prosperous white farmer, when the latter invaded her home, in the absence of the other members of the family, and attempted to assault her. The girl obtained a revolver and seriously wounded the man.

10-20-23

Attempt Lynching

Six men, said to be cronies of the wounded man, stormed the jail, where the girl had been placed following the shooting, and demanded that the jailer deliver the woman to them. They were told that she had already been taken to the Fulton county jail in Atlanta.

Removal of the girl was due to a warning received by the sheriff through a colored prisoner. His wife hearing of the impending attempt, wrote him a note telling of the would-be lynchers' plans. The prisoner turned the warning over to Sheriff Wilson and the girl was sent to Atlanta several hours before the effort was made to get her.

None of the men were recognized by the jailer, who said that all wore handkerchiefs over their faces, which made them unrecognizable.

Tell of Relationship

A new sensation was sprung here early Saturday morning, when rumors were being wafted about that the girl had been the man's paramour for some time, and that she shot him, when he objected to her effort to "break loose." Colored residents of the community assert that this story is false and was circulated by friends of the dead man. It is said the girl prisoner's family stands high in the community.

Negro Is Rushed From Atlanta To Savannah Jail To Bar Violence

11-1-23

Savannah, Ga., October 31.—(By the Associated Press.)—Jim Easley, charged with attacking a woman in Metter, Ga., Sunday night, and captured after a three-day chase by a sheriff's posse and placed in jail at Metter today, was brought to Savannah tonight.

Easley was spirited out of Metter at 2 o'clock this afternoon and put into an automobile for a dash to safety. The way was opened to Savannah and the seventy-two miles was covered by 6 o'clock. After the prisoner was out of town officers at Metter told the crowd that Easley was not in the jail and two different delegations searched the prison before the crowd was convinced that the negro had been removed. Information from Metter tonight indicates that the crowd had grown to a great number and that the timely removal of the prisoner has prevented a lynching.

NEGRO IS CAPTURED BY SHERIFF'S POSSE.

Metter, Ga., October 31.—Jim Easley, a negro charged with attacking a prominent woman here Sunday night, was captured by a sheriff's posse this morning and placed in the jail here.

Throughout the day a crowd of 500 men was about the jail and threats of lynching have brought from Sheriff J. H. Flynt the statement that he and his men will protect the prisoner.

According to the officers, the pistol missing from the house where the attack was made was found in Easley's possession. It is reported here that the prisoner has confessed.

NEGRO SPIRITED AWAY

11-1-23

Charged With Assaulting White Woman Narrowly Escapes Mob.

SAVANNAH, GA., October 31.—Jim Easley, charged with attacking a woman at Metter, Ga., Sunday night and captured after a three-day chase by a sheriff's posse and placed in jail at Metter today, was brought to Savannah tonight.

MOB SEEKS BLACK.

METTER, GA., Oct. 31.—Jim Easley, a negro charged with attacking a prominent woman here Sunday night, was captured by a sheriff's posse this morning and placed in the jail here.

Throughout the day a crowd of five hundred men have been about the jail and threats of lynching have brought from Sheriff J. H. Flynt the statement that he and his men will protect the prisoner.

According to the officers, the pistol missing from the house where the attack was made was found in Easley's possession. It is reported here that the prisoner has confessed.

Crowds of people are still congregating in the streets and the situation looks threatening.

In case there is a chance to get the negro out of Metter he will be removed to some other prison, the officers say.

"LAW AND ORDER WIN"

Under the above caption the Grand Rapids (Mich.) Herald commends most heartily the prompt action of the state in the recent Savannah situation, in preventing by military intervention the lynching of a negro prisoner charged with a heinous offense.

As the Herald says:

"In the case of the prisoner there appears no doubt of his guilt. There is, however, a way provided for his trial and punishment in the laws of the state of Georgia, **and that is the only way which sound Americanism countenances.**"

The editorial goes on to recount the most unenviable record of Georgia as to lynchings in the past, and regards the Savannah incident as a turning point and of national importance in showing "a wholesomely increased respect for the laws of the states and the nation."

An Atlanta citizen in Grand Rapids sends this editorial to The Constitution with the comment: "I hope we are not guilty of all they charge us with, but I am glad to note they seem ready to commend us as well as condemn when the circumstances justify."

That is true. Georgia has been advertised badly for these many years by reason of an element of irresponsible men who too frequently resorted to mob violence.

The overwhelming sentiment of this state is as much opposed to mobs as it is in Michigan or any other state, but the fact that lynchings have been resorted to illustrates, as shown by the reference in the Grand Rapids Herald, that a small element, by acts that discredit a people, can create an adverse opinion among those of other states that is immeasurable in its harmfulness.

It is refreshing that papers are willing to see the light of a new dawn. Only by strict adherence to constituted authority can the ideals of government be maintained. Certainly nothing strikes so heavily at the foundation of our institutions as the mob; nothing tears down the judiciary so completely; nothing undermines the economic fabric of our commercial and industrial life so irreparably as disrespect for law and order.

It is hoped that whenever and wherever the mob shows its head in Georgia the strong arm of law and of constituted authority may so completely put it down, that at no distant day Georgia shall be advertised good and not bad to the world.

In the meantime the Grand Rapids Herald is to be commended for the fairness of its comment.

Lynchings—1923 Georgia. 1417

Prevented

Guards To Flank 2 Butler Youths At Murder Trial

Atlanta Constitution

Columbus, Ga., December 15.—When Willie Jones and Gervis Bloodworth, Reynolds youths, indicted in connection with the fatal shooting of H. F. Underwood, medicine salesman who was slain December 3 near Reynolds, go on trial Tuesday in Taylor superior court at Butler, they will have protection and the jail will be well guarded against eventualities, according to an announcement made here tonight by court officials.

There is still a strong feeling in Reynolds and Butler against the young men, whose ages range between 18 and 20 years, and the officers of the court are determined to protect their prisoners should anything serious happen, it was stated here tonight. It is probable that the boys will not be taken to Butler until the day of their trial and in automobiles with a heavy guard.

12-16-23

The boys will be tried for first degree murder.

Jones has confessed to actually firing the gun that caused the death of the medicine salesman, the solicitor states, but puts a portion of the blame on the shoulders of Bloodworth, asserting that he was his partner in crime by giving him the signal when to fire. No statement has been made by Bloodworth. Homer Jones and his wife who have been held here in connection with the slaying, on blanket charges, have been permitted to go to their home in Taylor county

Lynchings — 1923 — Georgia — Prevented

1410

ALLEGED SLAYER OF ZANIE BRYANT IN CORDELE JAIL

2-12-23

Cordele, Ga., February 11.—Sheriff T. R. Giles, of Crawford county, and Sheriff C. O. Nobles, of Crisp county, arrived here late tonight from Monticello, Fla., with Tom Massey a negro, in custody. Massey is accused of the murder of Zanie Bryant at a sawmill near Byron, Ga., on December 24, Bryant's head being split open with an ax and his body buried in sawdust.

Massey was placed in jail here for the night for safekeeping. According to the officers Massey confessed to them that he struck the first blow in killing Bryant, using an ax. The negro implicated two other persons in the killing, according to the officers, but did not give ther names.

SAVANNAH IS QUIET AFTER JAIL ATTACK

State Troops are on Guard and Governor Issues Proclamation of Insurrection

SAVANNAH, GA., June 20—This city was quiet tonight, with state troops guarding the Chatham county jail where a mob early today made an unsuccessful atempt to seize Walter Lee a negro charged with attacking a young married woman in West Savannah Monday afternoon.

Following the issuance of a proclamation by Governor Hardwick at Atlanta declaring Savannah in a state of insurrection, Brig. Gen. R. J. Travis, commanding officer of the 11th field artillery, was designated Adjutant General Howard Cope to take charge of the situation here. As the result of a conference between General Travis and Major Seabrook it was decided to keep the soldiers on duty, probably for several days.

It was stated that General Travis has approximately 150 officers and 325 men under his command here and it is not considered probable that other troops will be asked in the emergency.

Orders were issued early today prohibiting the sale of all fire arms in the city, automobiles were forbidden to use Habersham street in the vicinity of the jail and no gatherings were permitted on the streets. Around the jail itself temporary breastworks have been built by the soldiers, behind which are mounted several machine guns.

Seventeen person arrested last night in connection with the rioting were arraigned in city court today and bound over on charges of rioting and carrying concealed weapons. The negro Lee is confined in what is considered a safe part of the Chatham jail, which never has been stormed successfully by a mob and the belief was expressed by city and county officers tonight that the situation was well in hand and that there would be no further trouble.

At the same time it was pointed out that a large number of visitors will be in the city over the week-end and in connection with the opening of the new highway to Tybee, a nearby summer resort and for that reason it was deemed advisable to keep the soldiers on duty about the jail.

ONE DEAD, SEVERAL HURT MOBBING JAIL

2,000 Gather at Savannah, Where Negro is Held for Assaulting Woman

SAVANNAH, GA., June 20.—One man is dead here this morning and several others are in hospitals in more or less serious condition as a result of firing in a mob assembled in front of the jail here where Walter Lee, negro, charged with criminal assault on a white woman is being held.

O. Claude Parker, Jr., was shot in the stomach and died a few minutes later in a hospital.

The mob, estimated at more than 2,000 persons, formed shortly before midnight and increased in number. The military was called to preserve order. Sheriff Merrit Dixon told the mob that the jail would be defended against any attempt at storming it.

At 1:30 o'clock, shortly after the military assumed control, a threatening section of the crowd was fired upon.

George Bart, a baker's son, is one of the seriously wounded.

Folloffing the sheriff's announcement, when it seemed the crowd had no intention of dispersing, the sheriff ordered a half dozen streams of water poured into the crowd. The mob then threw bricks at the firemen, one missle striking the gun the sheriff held from his hand. Chief of Polie Hendry was struck in the stomach with a brick.

The mahine guns were brought into ation at 1:40 o'clock when the mob grew more menacing.

At 2 a. m. with 150 military men supporting the full city and county police forces and with firemen on every street to deluge any approaching the jail, there is every indication that the spirit of the mob is broken. The police and military men are arresting members of the mob and marching them to the police station.

SHERIFF AT JAIL HALTS

MOB'S RUSH

Savannah, Ga. June 22.—It was demonstrated here on Tuesday night that when an earnest effort is made by the authorities backed by the better element of citizenry, mob rule can be suppressed and the murderous efforts of the lynchbillies of the South defeated. Following the arrest of Walter Lee, a young man on suspicion of having beaten a white woman with an iron bar, a gang of over 2,000 men, boys and women formed with the expressed intention of battering down the jail and lynching Lee, who stoutly has declared his innocence of the crime charged against him.

Mob Dispersed

Military aid had been called for and furnished at the solicitation of Sheriff Merrit Dixon, who had earlier informed the mob that any attempt at rushing the jail would be resisted to his last man. The fire department was also called and hose stretched ready for use. Later in the night several shots were fired by members of the mob and upon a closer approach to the jail the sheriff ordered the hose turned upon them. The water had a cooling effect, but it was also necessary for the militia to fire a few shots into the thickest part of the gang with the result that O. C. Parker and George Bart (white), a couple of local toughs, were shot, the former being instantly killed. It is said that many others were wounded. The sheriff was struck in the stomach with a brick, but gamely stuck to his post despite his serious injury. Major A. R. Moore is in command of the military detachment which is still on duty, though the ardor of the lynchbillies seems to have been literally "washed" away. Four machine guns have been mounted and are ready for service.

Local Lowbrows

The better class of both races here are working in sympathy with each other and are a unit in decrying the actions of the murderous throng of hoodlums who made this dastardly attempt to take the law into its hands and shed the blood of the prisoner, who no doubt will have no trouble in proving his innocence. These activities are part of the reason why thousands and thousands of our people are heading for the North. The petty racial prejudices, the Jim Crow cars, the disfranchising local and state laws, along with the general mob spirit are all contributing factors in the "migration." Just as long as these things prevail perfect harmony and peace cannot be looked for and this occurrence should be a warning to the white people of this district who are interested in the suppression of the Northern movement to straighten things out in a manner which will not encourage a feeling of contempt for us on the part of the ignorant, unfair whites on the one side and a feeling of humiliation upon the part of our people on the other. Sooner or later it will have to be done, so the sooner the better for all concerned. There was but little "neighborhood" trouble during Tuesday night's excitement, due largely to the co-operation of the respectable members of both races. There is much talk of leaving and it would not be surprising if several hundred of our people should make up their minds to soon shake the red clay of Georgia from their feet.

SOLDIERS KEEP SAVANNAH PEACEFUL

Martial Law Likely to Pass When Prisoner Accused of Attacking Woman Is Indicted.

By International News Service.

SAVANNAH, Ga., June 21.—With forty-eight men illegally arrested, officers Thursday were continuing their efforts to apprehend additional members of the mob that Tuesday night stormed the county jail, costing the life of Claude Parker and several injuries to many others.

The grand jury, scheduled to meet Thursday to investigate the case of the negro Will Lee, charged with assaulting a Savannah white woman, and the object of the jail rush will not convene before Friday at the earliest, it was announced, because of the absence of Judge W. Meldrin, who was called out of the city.

Parker's funeral was held at 10 o'clock Thursday and a large crowd attended. The same bullet which took his life pierced George Bart's arm, making amputation necessary.

Military authorities dismissed 32 of the 48 arrested, but held 16 over for the City Court and filed charges of rioting against them. In addition to rioting charge six of them will face trial for carrying concealed weapons.

As the city has been under martial law since a short time after the riot, military authorities made most of the arrests.

Hints are still rife that a mob is quietly forming in the back country where the woman lived, but no definite reports have been received by officers. Guards, watching all roads coming into Savannah, are in communication with military headquarters in order for immediate notification should a second mob move on the jail. All cars are searched for arms before they are permitted to pass.

Savannah's negro populace, which comprises approximately half of the total, has offered no protest to Tuesday night's demonstration. Many of them aided in the hunt for the negro assailant.

SAVANNAH CALMED BY MARTIAL LAW

National Guardsmen Camp Near the Jail and Disperse Crowds in the Streets.

WERE FIRED ON BY MOB

50 of 100 Persons, Arrested When Lynching Was Foiled, Are Held for Higher Court.

Special to The New York Times.

SAVANNAH, June 20.—Following the rioting early this morning, suppressed by a machine gun detachment of the National Guard, when a mob of 2,000 gathered to seize Walter Lee, a negro prisoner in the County Jail and lynch him, Savannah today has been under martial law and National Guardsmen are patrolling the streets tonight.

Major Seabrooks was standing close to Oscar C. Parker, Jr., the only one killed in the fighting early this morning between the mob on one side and the police, firemen and guardsmen on the other, when he fell mortally wounded. George Bart was wounded in the arm by the bullet that killed Parkr and amputation of the arm will be necessary. One hundred of those in the mob were arrested and about 50 were held for a Higher Court this morning when arraigned on charges of inciting to riot and carrying concealed weapons.

After the mob had once been pushed back from the Jail by the united efforts of the policemen, firemen and militiamen, it again surged forward and Lieut. Col. Thompson and Major Russell Moore of the 118th Field Artillery, who were in command of the guard detachment, ordered it to fire over the heads of crowd. The fire was returned by some of those in the mob. Major Moore's life was probably saved by a tree in front of a barber shop near the Jail. He dropped to his knees behind the sapling and continued firing. Then the firemen drenched the mob and its ranks broke. At 3 o'clock the streets weer quiet.

Later in the morning Mayor Leabrooks got in touch with Goveronr Hardwick and expressed fear of another outbreak. The Governor at once declared the city in a state of insurrection and issued a proclamation declaring it under martial law, with Brig. Gen. Travis, commanding the guard in this district, in charge. Tonight every avenue leading toward the jail is guarded. Pedestrians and those in automobiles and other vehicles are

turned back. The jail is isolated. The guardsmen have established a camp in Colonial Park, which adjoins the jail. Every rumor of the formation of a crowd in any section of the city is run down and all gatherings on street corners are dispersed.

The victim of the alleged assault for which the Negro was arrested said today she was positive of his identity.

"If they do take him away from the police I hope they give me the first lick at him," she said. Her condition is still serious.

In Georgia it is against the law to publish in a newspaper the name of the victim of a criminal assault.

The Negro is confined in an underground dungeon. There never has been a prisoner removed from the Chatham County jail by a mob.

GEORGIA MILITIA DRIVES BACK MOB TO SAVE NEGRO

One Is Killed, Several Injured, in Violence Before Jail

Associated Press Report.

SAVANNAH, Ga., June 10.—With two thousand persons before the county jail, where Walter Lee, negro, charged with criminal attack upon a white woman is confined, and with the number of excited persons increasing every moment the riot call for the city and county officers was sounded shortly before midnight tonight.

Lee, a negro, about 18 years old, was captured by county police this afternoon after a twenty-four-hour hunt. He is charged with attacking the woman and beating her into insensibility with a flat iron. His capture was effected late this afternoon upon information furnished by a negro, who had seen him near the woman's home shortly before the crime was committed. Lee was rushed to the county jail, where he was identified by his victim. He denies his guilt.

At 12:20, when two shots had been heard within a block of the jail and Mayor Seabrook's arrival on the scene had failed to quiet the clamoring crowd, a call was sent out for military aid, and at 12:30 a detachment of machine gun men under Major A. Russell Moore reached the jail and took position. The military had been put on notice by the first riot call and had assembled at the armories, all of which are within a short distance from the jail.

One man was reported shot and wounded in the general fighting among the soldiers and members of the mob surrounding the jail.

When the machine gun men rushed the crowd to push it back, one man on the front line showed resistance and he was quickly taken in charge and sent to the police station.

One man in the mob, shot in the abdomen apparently by some one in the crowd was sent to a hospital at 12:45 in a serious condition.

Chief of Police Hendry was struck in the stomach with a brick, but the extent of his injuries has not been determined.

Lieutenant I. C. Helmly Jr. of Battery C, National Guard, was struck in the face with a brick at 1 o'clock and disabled.

Police Lieutenant Sherrod, who fired the first two shots heard in the vicinity of the jail, fired on some one who had hurled a brick and struck him. He was not seriously injured and is still on duty.

George Bart, son of a baker, has been shot in the arm and taken to a hospital.

The man shot in the abdomen and taken to a hospital, died at 1 a. m. His name is Parker.

At 1:15 a. m. the militia under Lieutenant Colonel J. H. Thompson had pressed back the crowd two blocks from the jail on all sides and seems to be in control of the situation.

48 Arrested After Series Of Disorders

Martial Law Proclaimed as Authorities Use Fire and Water to Check "Mob Law."

ATTACKER KILLED

Stringent Action on Part of City and State Officials Believed to Be Direct Outgrowth of Migratory Movement.

SAVANNAH, GA., June 28.—With state troops patrolling the streets where a mob early last Wednesday morning attempted to storm the county jail and lynch a colored youth following an alleged attack on a white woman, with martial law in effect, and with the entire South facing the most serious period of its industrial career, the Chapman County Grand Jury Thursday morning ordered 48 white men, alleged members of the mob of 3,000, to be arrested as suspects. Meanwhile officers continued their efforts to apprehend additional mob members.

The action of the Grand Jury is believed to be a direct result of the migratory movement, which has caused thousands of Colored citizens to escape just such outbreaks as the one here last week. Promises have filled the mouths of the Southerners in their efforts to check the steady flow of humanity, and now, in direct contradiction to these promises, comes the attempted "mob rule" of the "cracker brigade."

But, for the first time in the history of the city, stringent methods were taken to suppress hitherto unchecked mob violence, and as a result, one man is dead and another seriously injured.

Shortly after midnight on the night of the attempted attack, when the armed forces about the jail had been perceptibly increased, the crowd was addressed by Solicitor General Walter Hartridge, and by Sheriff Merritt W. Dixon, who declared it was his purpose to protect the prisoner and if any attempt was made to storm the jail there would be bloodshed. Sheriff Dixon's address did not quiet the crowd. While there was no rush toward the jail it was evident that there was no intention of dispersing. Sheriff Dixon then gave an order which resulted in half a dozen streams of water being sent into the crowd by city firemen. Instead of flinching from the water the crowd immediately began throwing bricks at the firemen. In the battle that ensued a brick from the dark knocked the sheriff's pistol from his hand.

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After the mob had once been pushed back from the jail by the united efforts of the policemen, firemen and militiamen, it again surged forward and Lieut. Col. Thompson and Major Russell Moore of the 118th Field Artillery, who were in command of the guard detachment, ordered fire [illegible] over the heads of the crowd. The fire was returned by some of those in the mob.

At 3 o'clock the streets were quiet.

Later in the morning Mayor Seabrooks got in touch with Governor Hardwick and expressed fear of another outbreak. The Governor at once declared the city in a state of insurrection and issued a proclamation declaring it under martial law, with Brig. Gen. Travis, commanding the guard in this district, in charge.

Wednesday night everything was quiet.

For Once a Mob Was Cowed.

What can be done always, or almost always, in the way of handling would-be lynchers by local authorities, police and other, when they have the courage and inclination to do their duty, was illustrated to perfection down in Savannah this week.

A mob estimated at 2,000 men gathered around the jail there and expressed in the usual way its determination to seize and summarily to punish a negro who had been identified by a white woman as her assailant. In only too many cases, especially, but not only, in the South, the story would have been different. The jail guards and the local police would have resisted only until the time for severe measures had come, and then their resistance would have ceased. They would have excused themselves either by the plea of inability to overcome large numbers or of reluctance to cause "bloodshed." Anyhow, the jail doors would have been smashed, the negro taken and hung or shot—if not burned alive.

In Savannah, a different course was followed. First there was argument with the rioters by eminent citizens; then there was an issuance of orders to disperse. When these devices had proved ineffective, firemen were called out to use their hose on the crowd, and this, too, failing, a company of militia, with a machine gun, was brought to the scene. There was some throwing of bricks and some shooting, by which one man was badly wounded, but the mob had no eagerness for real battle and its members promptly departed for places unknown—and safer. Both the jail and the prisoner were saved, the latter for a trial which will mean death to him if convicted of the crime charged.

Savannah evidently has its share of bad citizens, like every other city, but it also has some officials of which its majority of good citizens have reason to be proud.

ALBANY GA. HERALD

JUN 21 1923

THE SAVANNAH AFFAIR.

Several interesting lessons are to be drawn from the clash of a Savannah mob with Savannah militia early Wednesday morning—a clash in which the mob came out second best and dispersed after suffering casualties and failing to obtain possession of the negro prisoner it was seeking. One member of the mob was killed and several were wounded, and the accused negro is still in jail awaiting orderly trial.

One of the first of the reminders which the Savannah affair brings is that the Savannah military organizations take their jobs seriously. Being soldiers is with them a part of the day's work and not part of the day's play. It has ever been so in Savannah, where the state troops have maintained a high degree of efficiency and shown real enthusiasm for their jobs. The best marksmen in the state have for many years been developed on Savannah rifle ranges, and men have earned promotion in the Savannah military organizations only on the basis of proved merit.

And when Savannah troops were ordered out to defend the Savannah jail and protect a prisoner whom a mob was intent on lynching, it was a foregone conclusion that the mob would fail. If the accused man is guilty he deserves death, but only the law has the right to say he must die, and the same law that can decree death has a right to expect those in authority to protect the law's orderly processes.

And today the law is stronger in Savannah and Chatham county because a mob was turned back from the county jail by state troops who proved that they were more than "tin soldiers." It is most unfortunate that a man was killed and that others in the mob were wounded. And though members of the mob who were arrested by troopers and placed behind the bars probably feel that they have been outrageously treated, they will get little sympathy. They were themselves in a conspiracy to outrage the law, and the fact that they could not bluff the troopers on duty at the jail makes it far more likely that the mob members will be properly dealt with than would be possible had the would-be lynchers succeeded in carrying out their plan.

Another lesson the Savannah affair teaches is the importance of promptness in dealing with a menacing situation. As soon as there was realization of danger, the local authorities took the steps that were necessary to protect the law and its prisoner. Delay probably would have given the mob a chance to succeed. Quick action insured its defeat.

All in all, the Savannah affair sticks a feather in the cap of Justice in Georgia, and heartens those who are bravely struggling to strengthen it in its battling for law and order.

Lynchings—1923. Georgia. 1411

Prevented

SHERIFF DIXON REFUSES GIVE PRISONER TO INFURIATED MOB

18 Year Old Negro, Accused Of Criminal Assault On White Woman

MEMBER OF MOB KILLED, ONE WOUNDED

CITY UNDER MARSHAL LAW—PRISONER DENIES CRIME—VICTIM POSITIVELY IDENTIFIES HIM—QUIET REIGNS AFTER A TENSE NIGHT

Following in the wake of one of the most atrocious crimes ever committed in this section Savannah was put under martial law Wednesday morning and is still under the protection of the state militia, though except for the appearance of the troops at points of vantage throughout the city and on the roads leading to the city, there are no evidences of trouble and everything is going along peacefully. And there have been no outstanding incidents except those which occurred in connection with the assembling of the mob at the county jail Tuesday night to secure the Negro who is said to have made the assault on the white woman in West Savannah Monday afternoon.

The Crime

Monday about noon, a small Negro appeared at the home of a white woman in West Savannah, a short distance from Lincoln park, and asked for a drink of water. The woman who was alone in the house with her two small children, one a baby and the other a child of about two years, pointed the man to the pump in the yard. Shortly afterwards the woman went to a back room of the house where she spied the man who had asked her for water. He immediately attacked her and after knocking her in the head, is said to have assaulted her. The man bit the woman about the breast and on her arm and then left her in an unconscious condition. A Negro woman neighbor passing the house and hearing the baby crying, stopped in to see what was the matter. She discovered the unconscious woman on the floor and gave the alarm to a passing county police who notified police headquarters of the assault.

News of the assault spread rapidly throughout the city and the police authorities, fearing trouble, prepared to handle the situation. When the woman regained consciousness she gave a minute description of her assailant and the next morning Walter, who escaped from the Juvenile farm last October, was apprehended in Grapevine avenue. News of the arrest of the assailant was spread and a little before midnight a mob was formed at the Fair grounds and came to town in automobiles, going to the jail where they demanded the prisoner.

Sheriff Refuses Demands

Sheriff Merritt W. Dixon was on hand and he came to the outside and addressed the angry crowd of about five thousand persons. In a firm voice he told the mob that he refused to surrender the prisoner and that the only way they could get their man would be over his dead body. This seemed to make the crowd more restless and angry threats were hurled at the sheriff and his assistants.

In the meantime, a riot call was sounded and the local state troops were called to their armory and rushed to the jail. Each moment the crowd became more restless and finally a series of shots rang out from the crowd. They were evidently meant for the sheriff, but they missed their mark and struck Oscar Parks, Jr., who is said to have been a member of the mob, and who was carried to a hospital where he died shortly afterwards. A second shot struck another member of the mob, who, it is feared, will lose an arm.

Firemen Called out

At this point the firemen were called out and by the use of streams of water and several shots in the air by the police the mob was dispersed. The mob was apparently led by out-of-town men, because in wending its way from the Fairgrounds to the jail it lost its way several times, going down two streets which were not in line to the jail and being forced to retrace its steps.

The authorities are determined to maintain the good name of the city and say that there will not be any lynching here. Conditions are normal and no further excitement is looked for.

During the excitement at the jail, Mayor Seabrook was on hand and remained there until the situation was well in hand.

WORLD
JUNE 21, 1923

THE WAY TO STOP LYNCHING.

The kind of job carried through by Sheriff Merritt Dixon at Savannah, Ga., is about the most difficult that can fall to the lot of an officer of the law. A Sheriff is a resident of his town. When a mob gathers in his county he knows many of the people who are in it. If an attempt is made to storm the jail he knows that he cannot fire into the assembly without possible injury to neighbors and—also important—to voters.

Moreover, a Sheriff who uses violence to prevent a lynching is sacrificing human life to an ideal of government which often appears shadowy and unreal at the moment when the decision must be made. In the face of such situations it has been the habit of many Southern Sheriffs to surrender the prisoner as the lesser evil. There is always a chance that he is guilty.

Yet the yielding of officials to mob clamor in such instances has made lynching possible as an institution in the South. Fewer innocent lives would have been lost in the past if every County Jail had been guarded by machine guns in the hands of men willing to use them rather than consent to mob murder. One man was killed in the mob at Savannah; others were injured. But the prisoner was protected, and it will be a long time before another attempt is made to rush the doors of that particular jail.

SAVANNAH QUIET FOLLOWING RIOT

Savannah, Ga., June 20.—(Special.)—Brigadier General Robert J. Travis, with five hundred national guardsmen, is in charge of the situation in Savannah, which was proclaimed by Governor Hardwick under martial law today. He declared late today that he was ready for any emergency that may arise in renewed efforts to take Walter Lee, nineteen year old negro boy charged with criminally assaulting the young wife of an employee of an industrial plant near this city, from the county prison.

Following the fierce assault on the jail early this morning, with Claude Parker killed and several injured, careful preparations have been perfected today to make impossible any other attempt. The two or three blocks about the jail are to be guarded until further notice by armed, helmeted guardsmen, who have set up their camp, including kitchen tent, in the park adjoining the jail grounds.

Streets cars passing through the area are not allowed to stop. Autos and other vehicles and pedestrians are halted and searched and not allowed to pass without special permits.

Every Road Guarded.

The whole city is under martial law, also. Every road entering Savannah is guarded by militiamen who stop every incomer and search for firearms. Many parties have been stopped and one or two rifles and a dozen or more pistols taken, the bearers of weapons being turned over to the courts.

Soldiers have stopped and searched at least three automobiles found to contain liquor, the search being made without warrants under military rule.

Two of the 49 men arranged in police court this morning on charges of participating in the riot, C. J. L. and C. B. Humbert, admitted frankly that they were in the "mob" last night, that they were both armed, and that they were from the county from which young Parker came.

General Travis is said to have stated today that from investigation the crowd last night was made up largely of out-of-town men.

The husband of the alleged victim of the assault has not been officially connected with the demonstrations.

Solicitor General Hartridge in a published statement this afternoon declared that he had conferred with the grand jury foreman and expected to bring the case to trial in the next few days.

Orders have been issued prohibiting sale of firearms, and after a conference between General Travis and Mayor Seabrook, it was stated the soldiers probably should be kept on duty for the remainder of the week.

Police Court Guarded.

Police court was held this morning with a cordon of soldiers in and around the room. No person was allowed in the room except those by special permission, defendants, witnesses and police.

Seventeen defendants arrested in connection with the early morning rioting, were bound over to city court by the recorder. Those charged with rioting and carrying concealed weapons were put under $2,000 bond, while those charged only with rioting were released on $1 000 bond.

The victim of the negro, when seen today, said there could be no doubt that the right negro had been caught. "I picked him out of a half dozen of the negroes," she said. "He would not look at me. He knew he was guilty. I would know him anywhere. I hope if the mob gets him I will have the first lick at him."

The coroner's jury investigating the death of Claude Parker, killed last night during an effort to take the negro from jail, brought in a verdict of accidental death. The bullet which killed him the coroner stated, did not come from a machine gun.

Warfare Picture.

The Chatham county jail today presented a picture of warfare. Soldiers are walking guard as far as Abercorn street, surrounding the Colonial park and inclusive of the city barracks. At daybreak this morning, the service battery began to function and breakfast was prepared for the men. The kitchen was erected in the Chatham county jail yard.

The scene around the jail is quiet. The men are stationed behind machine guns and temporary breastworks have been thrown up. Guards are walking with fixed bayonets and wearing trench helmets.

The streets finally were cleared about 3 o'clock this morning by firemen playing streams of water on the crowd. This was after a volley of shots by soldiers had been answered by the mob.

None of the officers, who were struck by missiles thrown by the mob, was seriously hurt. Chief Hendry was struck by a brick but his injuries are not serious.

All Attacks Failed.

The Savannah jail has never been stormed successfully by a mob.

The men being held by the police upon the request of the military authorities follow: N. M. Kennedy, G. W. Candler, F. A. Leonard, D. A. Holm, N. A. McClellan, C. G. Fuller, C. J. Crawford, E. A. McMillan, W. M. Crawford, A. F. Rountree, C. N. Padgett, Tern Boyd, Grady Nesmith, J. O. Ennis, J. D. Ennis, P. Carrell, John Kennan, H. S. Averett, Charles Padgett, W. L. Scoggins, S. R. Crawford, R. L. Lovett, H. O. Owens, L. E. Powell, F. E. Taylor, J. L. Humbert, G. C. Vandoran, R. S. Anglen, M. E. Harman, George Smith, C. B. Humbert, Peter Causey, E. L. Bronson, W. L. Sellers, H. C. Green, J. C. Ryan, T. L. Palmer, W. H. McKenson, H. Z. Boffard, H. J. Mahoney, J. B. Wilson, P. W. Padgett, H. C. Kent, George Love, Ben Walker, M. L. Tillman, G. C. Taylor (released at 5:45 a. m.) and A. Lenehan.

GOVERNOR PROCLAIMS MILITARY RULE.

Following issuance, Wednesday morning, of a proclamation by Governor Thomas W. Hardwick, declaring the city of Savannah under martial law, advices received in Atlanta up to a late hour at night reported everything quiet in the south Georgia city, with no new developments in the situation.

Governor Hardwick issued his proclamation following receipt of telegrams from the mayor of Savannah and the sheriff of Chatham county, declaring that the situation was threatening, following efforts made Tuesday night by a mob to storm the jail and take a negro held there on a charge of criminal assault.

Governor's Proclamation.

The text of Governor Hardwick's proclamation, declaring martial law, is as follows:

Whereas, upon representation made by Paul E. Seabrook, mayor of Savannah, and Merritt W. Dixon, sheriff of Chatham county, state of Georgia, that they had reasonable cause to apprehend an outbreak of a riot, tumult, insurrection, mob, unlawful assembly, or combination to oppose the enforcement of the law by intimidation, force, or violence within their jurisdiction of which by law they are the conservators of peace, which cannot be speedily suppressed, or effectively prevented by ordinary posse comitatus and peace officers, and such apprehension being deemed well-founded;

Therefore, by authority of Section 1434, Volume 2, code of Georgia of 1910, as amended by an act of the general assembly, approved August 21, 1916, and as required therein;

I, Thomas W. Hardwick, governor of the state of Georgia, deeming, after in-

vestigations, the apprehension of the mayor of Savannah, and the sheriff of Chatham county, well founded, do hereby proclaim a state of insurrection in the city of Savannah, Chatham county, state of Georgia.

The military commander will assume charge of the situation, reporting directly to the governor for instructions. All persons who may heretofore have given aid or otherwise supported the lawlessness, hitherto existing in said locality, who shall return to peaceful occupations, holding no communication of any kind with a lawless person or persons, will not be disturbed.

All rights of property, of whatever kind, will be held inviolate and will not be disturbed, except as exigencies of the public welfare may necessitate by direct command of the commanding officer of the troops.

All places of business, except as otherwise ordered by the military commander, will be kept open as usual in time of peace, and all persons are enjoined to continue their customary peaceful occupations.

All assemblances in the streets, whether by day or night, are prohibited, and arms will be borne only by permission of the military commander.

All persons found on the streets who appear to be habitually idle and without visible means of support will be placed under arrest.

Done under my hand and the great seal of the state at the capitol in Atlanta this twentieth day of June, 1923, and of the independence of the United States, the one hundred and forty-seventh.

THOMAS W. HARDWICK,
Governor.

S. G. M'Lendon,
Secretary of State.

SAVANNAH GUARD DEMOBILIZATION ORDER REVOKED

Savannah, Ga., June 22.—(Special.)—Orders from General R. J. Travis, in command of the militia doing duty guarding the Chatham jail and keeping peace following an attempt to storm the jail Tuesday night and take Walter Lee, negro, accused of assault, today were for demobilization and withdrawal of the troops.

Some of the men had left for their homes and the tents and equipment was in process of removal when a revocation of the order came from the adjutant general at the capital. Tents were repitched for more than 100 picked men who are on duty tonight.

General Travis said that the decision to keep military on duty was, "in view of a later telegram received from the adjutant general," following a conference early in the day with city and county officials when it was practically agreed, he said, to agree to the removal of the soldiers as no longer necessary.

General Travis could not say how long military precautions will be maintained, nor would he divulge the contents of his latest advice from the capital. A detachment of picked policemen is on duty at the barracks, subject to the call of the military authorities. There is no evidence of further effort of any kind to create disorder.

Mob Members Killed And Wounded By Brave Officers

Special To The News.

Savannah, Ga., June 19.—City and county officials of this place demonstrated their ability to put a mob to flight when they caused a crowd estimated at 2,000 to abandon their plans to lynch Walter Lee, 18 years of age Negro, here today. Charges of assaulting a white woman and beating her into insensibility have been filed against the Negro, although his guilt has not been positively established.

Shortly after the arrest of the young Negro a mob began to form about the principal streets of the city and threats of lynching could be heard on all sides. By midnight a crowd of 2000 had formed near the county jail where the Negro was held and as they surged forward, Solicitor General Walter& Hartridge and Sheriff Merritt W. Dixon mounted a box and addressed the crowd, warning them against violence and telling them that they would meet stiff opposition should they attempt to storm the jail.

Call For Military Police.

A call was issued for the local company of the military police to assemble preparatory to rushing to the assistance of the county and city officials, and before the military company could get through the crowd, several of their number were pelted with bricks and rocks and missles were hurled at the sheriff and his forces. The fire department was ordered to turn streams of water on the crowd and this was met by epithets and bricks from the mob members, resulting in the officers of the law firing a volley of bullets into the crowd of hoodlums. When the cowardly mob members hurried and scurried in every direction, it was discovered that one of the mob members was killed and scores were suffering from gunshot wounds. The situation is quiet today and no further attempt at lynching is expected

Mob Peril Passes, Savannah Believes

SAVANNAH, Ga., June 26.—Peace officials Tuesday expressed opinion that there is little danger of more mob violence against the jail in an attempt to lynch Walter Lee, negro charged with attacking a white woman, since the grand jury late Monday returned an indictment against him. It is thought his trial will be held Thursday.

Savannah has had no demonstrations since a week ago when a mob of 3,000 stormed the county jail, resulting in the death of one man and serious injuries to several others. The city was under martial law for a week to prevent any further attempts to secure the negro.

SAVANNAH MOB MEMBERS HELD; QUIET PREVAILS

Troops Will Remain In Georgia City for Several Days

Associated Press Report.

SAVANNAH, Ga., June 20.—This city was quiet tonight, with State troops guarding the Chatham county jail where a mob early today made an unsuccessful attempt to seize Walter Lee, a negro, charged with attacking a young married woman in West Savannah, Monday afternoon.

Following the issuance of a proclamation by Governor Hardwick at Atlanta, declaring Savannah in a state of insurrection, Brigadier General R. J. Travis, commanding officer of the 118th field artillery, was designated by Attorney General Lewis T. Pope to take charge of the situation here.

Prohibit Gun Sale.

As the result of a conference between General Travis and Mayor Seabrook it was decided to keep the soldiers on duty, probably for several days.

It was stated that General Travis has approximately 45 officers and 325 men under his command here.

Orders were issued early in the day prohibiting the sale of all firearms in the city. Automobiles were forbidden to use Habersham street in the vicinity of the jail and no gatherings were permitted on the streets. Around the jail itself temporary breastworks have been built by the soldiers, behind which aer mounted several machine guns.

Prisoners Held.

Seventeen persons arrested last night in connection with the rioting were arraigned in city court today and bound over on charges of rioting and carrying concealed weapons. The negro Lee is confined in what is considered a safe part of the Chatham jail, which never has been stormed successfully by a mob and belief was expressed by city and county officials tonight that the situation was well in hand and that there would be no further trouble.

The spirit of the rioters was broken shortly after 1 o'clock this morning after several hours of unrest in which several officers were struck by missiles thrown from the crowds, and one man, Oscar C. Parker Jr., was killed by an accidental shot. Chief of Police Hendry was struck by a brick, but his injury was not serious.

Thomasville, Ga. Enterprise
JUL 3 - 1923

LAW WILL TAKE ITS COURSE.

A Savannah ~~negro has~~ been tried and sentenced to hang for a very serious crime, one which is calculated to stir the passions of all men. The Savannah jail was strong enough to hold the prisoner against the attacks of a quickly gathered mob that threatened to take him for a lynching party.

It is better by far that this should occur as it did. Savannah maintains the dignity of the law and prevented through the courage of its officers the raping of justice, an unwarranted and illegal punishment for a crime that the law has mandated the negro to pay the extreme penalty for.

The evidence shows no doubt of the guilt of the negro and his punishment will not be delayed. There is every reason to believe that the quick action taken in this case will be a salutary example to many communities where the law has been transcended and wild passions have so enraged the hearts of men that they have taken human life without due process of law.

Lynchings — 1923. Illinois. 1420

Prevented.

SHERIFF OVERAWES MOB

Shelby County (Ill.) Official Saves Negro Youth in Jail.

Chicago Daily News

Threatens Hailstorm of Lead and Calls Out Armed Aids.

Chicago, Ill., 8-1-23

[By The Associated Press.]

Shelbyville, Ill., Aug. 1.—Measures taken by Sheriff Riley of Shelby county, who warned mob members that an attack on the jail would be met by a "hailstorm of lead," to-day prevented the seizure of Willis Bryant, 20 years old, of Clinton, Ill., who is charged with having mistreated a 12-year-old white girl Tuesday afternoon. Bryant, a colored youth, is held in the jail, closely guarded.

Neighbors Form Posse.

The girl was near the railroad tracks between Finely and Westervelt at 2 p. m. Friday when her screams were heard by her aunt, who summoned her father and spread the alarm among neighbors, which resulted in the gathering of a posse.

Eluding the posse, Bryant took refuge in a cornfield six miles from here, where three deputy sheriffs captured him and rushed him into the county jail.

Three hours later the mob had gathered. It consisted mostly of men and boys from Finely and Westervelt, who watched all the trains leaving the city, and are said to have demanded that the power house foreman cut off the city's supply of light, which demand was evaded.

Riot Guns Displayed.

The size of the mob started to dwindle at about 2 a. m. to-day after the sheriff had threatened the "storm of lead" and had emphasized his threat by a display of his deputies and special officers, armed with riot guns.

Later the sheriff said he believed all present danger of violence had passed.

TROOPS GUARD ILLINOIS MEN

Chicago Daily News

Company Rushed to Tamms When Two Are Seized for Attacking Girl.

Special to The Chicago Daily News.

Springfield, Ill., July 27.—Fearing mob violence against two men arrested at Tamms Ill. on a charge of attacking a young girl, Sheriff Rocher of Alexander county last night asked Adjt.-Gen. Black to have national guardsmen sent to the town. Company K of Cairo of the 130th infantry was immediately ordered out and arrived at Tamms shortly before daybreak. Reports to the adjutant-general's office here indicate the town is quiet.

SHERIFF OF ILL. SAVES COLORED MAN FROM MOB

The St. Louis, Mo. 7-17-23

Plaxon

SHELBYVILLE, Ill., Aug. 6.—Preston News Service.—Through the quick thinking and stern measures taken by Sheriff Riley of Shelby county, who told members of a large mob that any attempt to attack the jail would be met with a volley of bullets, saved Willis Bryant, age 20, of Clinton, Ill., from seizure by the mob. It is alleged that Bryant is charged with attacking a young 12 year-old girl last Tuesday aftrenoon. Bryant is held in jail closely guarded day and night.

SPRINGIELFD, Ill., July 27 (Associated Press).—A company of Guardsmen was sent to Tamms in Alexander County, by Adjutant General Carlos E. Black, early this morning at the request of Sheriff Roche of Cairo. The Sheriff said he feared that popular indignation would result in the lynching of James Hazlewood and Andrew Corbett, held in the Tamms Jail, in connection with an assault on a girl of Tamms.

Major William E. Greaney and Company K of the 130th Infantry of Cairo, received the call for help at 1:58 A. M. and by 3:30 the troops were guarding the jail.

7-18-23

General Black said a telephone message from Major Greaney advised him that the troops went back to Cairo about 9:30, escorting the prisoners to the County Jail, when they were bound over to the Grand Jury.

TAMMS, Ill., July 27.—National guardsmen from Cairo were rushed here today when an outbreak was feared following the arrest of Deputy Sheriff James Hazlewood and Andrew Corbett, charged with assault on a young girl, returned home several hours later when quiet was restored. The two prisoners were taken to Cairo, having waived preliminary hearings.

Chicago Tribune 7-28-23

LYNCHING STOPPED

By Threat of Hailstorm Lead Proves Effective.

SHELBYVILLE, Ill., August 1.—The sheriff of Shelby county, Ill., by threatening to mob members that an attempt at an attack on the jail would be met "by a hailstorm of lead" early this morning, prevented the seizure of Willis Bryant, negro of Clinton, Ill., who is charged with having attacked a 12 year old girl.

Chicago Tribune 8-2-23

Indiana.

1421

Lynchings — 1923.
Prevented.

ANOTHER CASE IN INDIANA.

INDIANAPOLIS IND., Dec. 3.—John Thomas Shaw, 24 negro man, who was arrested last night for the murder last week of Mrs. Helen Hager Wreichel attractive young widow, was taken to the Indiana state prison this afternoon for safekeeping. The taking of the negro to the state prison was said to have merely a precautionary measure and was not because of any definite threats made against him.

Lynchings—1923
Prevented.

Kansas.

1422

KANSAS CITY MO POST
SEPTEMBER 13, 1923

NEGRO DRIVER IS SAVED FROM MOB

Police Rescue Man Whose Car Killed Boy.

The arrival of Kansas City, Kas., police today at the scene of an accident at Thirteenth street and Haskell avenue is believed to have prevented tthe lynching of Melvin Bailey, Negro, 1018 New Jersey avenue, Kansas City, Kas.

Bailey, driving at a speed estimated by witnesses at 40 miles an hour, struck Andrew Thomas, 13 years old, 1318 Greeley avenue, and speeded from the scene of the accident. The boy died in an ambulance on the way to Providence hospital.

Bailey was captured five blocks from the scene of the accident by David Dunsworth and E Bedage, special agents for the Standard Oil company. They were sitting in a car when the accident occurred, and gave chase. Bailey stopped and surrendered and was returned to the scene.

Protected by Crowd.

According to Dunsworth, it was necessary to take the Negro into the Jackson market, at Thirteenth street and Haskell avenue, to save him from a crowd which had gathered.

Bailey was turned over to police, and held on failure to furnish a $5,000 cash bond. He was arrested by John Mogle and Henry Smyth, detectives.

Unavoidable, He Says.

Bailey, in a statement to police, said he did not intend to leave the scene of the accident and that he was not going faster than 25 miles an hour. He said the bicycle on which the boy was riding swerved in front of his car and that the accident was unavoidable.

Witnesses said the boy, who was riding on his bicycle, was dragged about 100 feet by the car, which was going south on Thirteenth street. His head was crushed, and he received internal injuries. His body was taken to the Gibson Bros. undertaking parlors.

Lynchings—1923 Prevented.

Kentucky.

1423

CONFESSES SLAYING OF HUSBAND; ADMITS INTIMACY WITH WIFE

Montgomery Advertiser 8-23

Used Hammer on Coal Manager at Request of Wife, Is Claim

(Associated Press)

LOUISVILLE, KY., Jan. 7.—Ollie Gibbons, charged with the murder of Gus Noffsinger, manager of the Southland Coal Company, at Henderson, Ky., brought to Louisville for safe keeping, has confessed, officials announced tonight.

Gibbons was quoted by officials as having declared he killed the coal man after repeated requests by Mrs. Noffsinger, with whom, he said, he had been intimate, that he commit the crime.

Noffsinger's body was found at the door of his garage, within twenty feet of Mrs. Noffsinger's bedroom last Sunday morning. He had been slain with a miner's hammer. Gibbons and the widow were arrested Friday night, after Mrs. Noffsinger was said by officials to have made a voluntary confession, naming Gibbons as the slayer, admitting intimacy with him and declaring she knew in advance the killing was to occur.

Mr. Gibbons' confession recited, officials said, that he accepted a ride with Noffsinger, took a hammer from the rear seat of the victim's automobile when the two alighted at the Noffsinger home, and struck the coal man down as he walked toward the garage door.

Gibbons then climbed the top of a board fence, according to the confession, and walked for fifty yards before alighting on a pavement in order to make difficult his trail in case blood hounds were called.

Inter-Race Committee Functions to Prevent Threatened Lynching

(By The Associated Negro Press)

RUSSELLVILLE, Ky., April 13.—The local inter-racial Committee has saved Russellville the disgrace of a lynching. By its active interest in the case of Jim Golay who was imprisoned here because of the killing of a white man in Logan County. He was brought here for safe keeping as well as to protect him from a threatened lynching at the place where he was apprehended for the part he took in the slaying of his victim. He claims that the killing was the result of a quarrel in the course of which the white man sought to kill him. His story has many believers here and for that reason and the feeling that he should be given a fair trial prompted the inter-racial committee to the steps necessary to get him fair play. Other reports are being circulated, but they do not appear to have much of a foundation for belief. Anyhow the people are determined that the Negro shall have a fair trial and if proven guilty, punished by due process of law.

PADUCAH WOMEN ARE IN HOPKINSVILLE JAIL

Taken There for Fear of Violence in Home Town.

1923

HOPKINSVILLE, Ky., May 6.—Mrs. Henrietta Wagner and Mrs. Skillian, charged with dynamiting the home of Mrs. Warren at Paducah, causing the death of Mrs. Warren's [illegible] born babe are safely housed in the county jail here. They arrived last night in custody of Chief of Police Whittemore of Paducah, and the sheriff of McCracken County. Before taken to the jail they were given supper at a restaurant.

Jailer McCord placed them last night in a cell in the basement of the jail here but this morning moved them to what used to be known as the death cell. This is a large and specially strong cell on the second floor with a large, but heavy barred window affording ample light and ventilation and provided with a private toilet and dressing room.

Mrs. Wagner has shown much nervousness but Mrs. Skillian has been very composed. Mrs. Wagner asked Jailer McCord if visitors ever came to the jail, saying she desired company. She was told that visitors were admitted, but none have been allowed to see her as yet.

Chief Whittemore returned to Paducah at noon today and the sheriff of McCracken went to Louisville. Jailer McCord is making the women as comfortable as possible but taking no chances of anything happening to them.

INTERRACIAL COMMISSION PREVENTS LYNCHING.

Louisville Courier Journal 4-14-23

Russellville, Ky., April 14.—The local Inter-racial Committee has saved Russellville the disgrace of a lynching. By its active interest in the case of Jim Golay who was imprisoned here because of the killing of a white man in Logan County. He was brought here for safe keeping as well as to protect him from a threatened lynching at the place where he was apprehended for the part he took in the slaying of his victim. He claims that the killing was the result of a quarrel in the course of which the white man sought to kill him. His story has many believers here and for that reason and the feeling that he should be given a fair trial prompted the inter-racial committee to the steps necessary to get him fair play. Other reports are being circulated but they do not appear to have much of foundation for belief Anyhow the people are determined that the Negro shall have a fair trial and if proven guilty punished by due process of law.

NEGRO IT THREATENED.

CINCINNATI, O., July 4.—Because he defended [illegible] 25-year-old Memphis negro, had torn his clothing to pieces in a hysterical condition in the [illegible] Ky., jail, Judge Johnson B. Read in Kenton County Court continued indefinitely the preliminary hearing on charge of criminal assault and battery.

Lightfoot was rescued from a mob of infuriated men on the Dixie highway, Covington, today, when he was in danger of being lynched for an alleged attack upon Mrs. Marie List near her home. Jail officials at Covington informed Judge Read that when they went to the negro's cell they found he had destroyed all the clothing worn at the time of the arrest. An armed guard tonight surrounds the jail as the result of skull and cross bones warnings posted about the courthouse square.

NEW YORK CITY SUN
NOVEMBER 20, 1923

Accused Negro's Shift Saves Him From Mob

OWENSBORO, Ky., Nov. 20.—James Freeman, 23 years old, negro, alleged to have attacked Mrs. W. M. Stiles, 55, wife of a prominent McLean county farmer, was held in the Daviess county jail here to-day for safe keeping following his capture last night after he had eluded two deputy sheriffs following his arrest.

After Freeman had been arrested yesterday on suspicion and taken before Mrs. Stiles, who said she believed he was the guilty person, he was sent to Calhoun, Ky., in charge of the deputies. En route to the jail the prisoner asked permission to stop at his home and get some medicine. The deputies waited on the front porch. Finally they became impatient and entered the house, only to find that the prisoner had disappeared.

Later he was found hiding under the floor of the house by Sheriff Roberts, who sent members of a large posse, which had gathered to help in the search, off on a false trail and brought the negro here and placed him in jail.

Lynchings-1923
Prevented

Maryland

1424

CORDON OF DEPUTIES PROTECT LIFE OF NEGRO

Savannah Press

LA PLATA, Md., Jan. 10 (By The Associated Negro Press).—Fearing that angry crowds would attempt to lynch James Bean, colored, said to have attacked a woman in her farm house at Brentland, a cordon of deputies surrounded the county jail.

Bean, a twenty-three-year-old laborer, was captured after a chase by a posse, during which he was shot in the leg by Sheriff Simms.

SHERIFF EVADES MOB

Pittsburgh American 19-23

BALTIMORE, Jan. 19.—George Shelton, thirty, was brought to the Baltimore jail to-day by the Sheriff of Somerset County to escape lynching for alleged assult upon a fourteen-year-old girl near Princess Anne, Md., Saturday night. Pitts., Pa.

A crowd gathered at the Princess Anne jail yesterday, and fearing violence the jailer admitted one of its number who knew Shelton. After a search he reported that Shelton was not there and the mob dispersed.

Lynchings—1923. Michigan.

Prevented

1425

SHERIFF DEFEATS MOB BENT ON A LYNCHING

St. Joseph (Mich.) Officer Nabs First Man Crossing the Deadline He Had Drawn.

N. Y. Times

ST. JOSEPH, Mich., July 27.—A mob of several hundred men, bent upon obtaining two negroes held on charges of attacking a white girl at Benton Harbor, Sunday night, menaced the County Jail here during the night and was prevented from storming the structure by the courage of Sheriff George Bridgman.

7-28-23

The mob, assembling late in the night, demanded that the Sheriff turn over the prisoners. The officer established a deadline. A member of the mob who crossed it was seized and placed in a cell adjoining that occupied by the two negroes.

The demonstration broke up at an early hour this morning, but the Sheriff, fearing further displays of violence, has asked Governor Groesbeck that State police be sent here.

The negroes, who are charged with attacking the young woman after holding her escort at bay with a pistol, were held in $25,000 bail each. The member of the mob arrested gave the name of R. L. Fenton of Benton Harbor. He suffered an injured jaw when struck by the Sheriff during a fight preceding the arrest.

LYNCHINGS AVERTED IN NORTHERN STATES

Commercial Appeal

Michigan and Illinois Mobs Threaten Four Men.

Memphis, Tenn.

ST. JOSEPH, Mich., July 27.—A mob of several hundred men, bent upon obtaining two negroes held on charges of attacking a white girl at Benton Harbor Sunday night, menaced the county jail here during the night and was prevented from storming the structure only by a show of bravado on the part of Sheriff George Bridgman.

7-28-23

The crowd, assembling late last night, demanded the sheriff turn the prisoners over to the mob. The officers established a deadline and one member of the mob who crossed it was seized and placed in a cell adjoining that occupied by the two negroes.

The mob broke up at an early hour this morning, but the sheriff fearing further displays of violence, has asked Governor Groesbeck that state police be sent here.

SHERIFF DREW DEAD LINE ON MOB AT JAIL

ST. JOSEPH, Mich.—A mob of several hundred men, bent upon obtaining two colored men held on charges of attacking a white girl at Benton Harbor Sunday night, menaced the county jail here during the night, was prevented from storming the structure only by a show of bravado on the part of Sheriff George Brumay.—The officers established a dead line and one member of the mob who crossed it was placed in a cell.

PLUCKY SHERIFF PREVENTS MOB FROM VIOLENCE

Michigan State News.

(By The Associated Negro Press)

St. Joseph, Mich.—A mob of several hundred men, bent upon obtaining two Negroes held on charges of attacking a white girl at Benton Harbor Sunday night, menaced the county jail here during the night and was prevented from storming the structure only by a show of bravado on the part of Sheriff George Bridgman.

8-18-23

The crowd, assembling late last night, demanded the sheriff turn the prisoners over. The officer established a dead line, and one member of the mob who crossed it was seized and placed in a cell adjoining that occupied by the two Negroes.

The mob broke up at an early hour Monday morning.

MORE BRAVE OFFICERS, LESS LYNCHING.

The Negro Star

(By The Associated Negro Press)

ST. JOSEPH, MICH. Aug. 10—A mob of several hundred men, bent upon obtaining two Negroes held on charges of attacking a white girl at Benton Harbor, Sunday night, menaced the county jail here during the night and was prevented from storming the structure only by a show of bravado on the part of Sheriff George Bridgman.

8-10-23

The crowd, assembling late last night, demanded the sheriff turn the prisoners over. The officers established a dead line, and one member of the mob who crossed it was seized and placed in a cell adjoining that occupied by the two Negroes.

The mob broke up at an early hour this morning.

Lynchings—1923

Mississippi.

1418

Prevented

NEGRO HELD AS PARTY TO LEE COUNTY CRIME

Implicated by Alleged Confession of P. M.'s Murder.

11/0123

Commercial appeal

TUPELO, Miss., Jan. 9.—The negro, Albert Kemp, said to have been named in an alleged confession by J. M. Jones as the slayer of Postmaster A. M. Rogers 15 months ago at Plantersville, near this place, was arrested this morning by Sheriff Will Inman of Lee County at Artesia, a town 65 miles south of Tupelo on the M. & O. Railroad, where he went recently from near this place.

The negro was well spoken of this afternoon by responsible white men who have known him for many years as a darky of good reputation and standing. He did not leave the country after the killing and resided in Tupelo and nearby communities until a few weeks ago. He is 54 years old.

He is being held outside of the county, as is Jones, until public feeling has subsided.

LYNCHING AVERTED.

Hattiesburg Officers Take Accused Negro to Unknown Jail.

Commercial Appeal
2-29-23

HATTIESBURG, Miss., Feb. 28.—What for a time appeared certain to develop into a lynching here Monday afternoon was averted by the prompt action of county and municipal officers with the co-operation of citizens. The affair was the outgrowth of an alleged insulting letter written to Mrs. Donie Scruggs by a negro, Eugene or "Denny" Conner, employed by a local tailoring company that also employed Mrs. Scruggs.

The latter was handed to Mrs. Scruggs by the negro at a time when the proprietor of the shop was absent. Angered by the note, Mrs. Scruggs tore it to pieces and threw the fragments into a heater in which there was no fire. She afterwards told her employer about the occurrence and he, with a friend, notified the police who placed Conner under arrest and incarcerated him in the city jail.

The letter was taken from the heater and was pieced together and Mrs. Scruggs was prevailed upon to reproduce the letter from memory. Although the original was barely legible after it had been put together, it tallied with the cardinal points. The negro asked the white woman to meet him at an isolated place where he might declare his love for her.

After the negro had been placed in the city jail, a small band of men gathered in front of the city hall, and, fearing a lynching, Chief of Police T. O. Watkins had the man removed to Forrest County jail. There he confessed authorship of the letter. When informed of the matter, Circuit Judge Robert S. Hall advised that the man be taken away from the city without delay, as another band was assembling near the county jail.

Conner was placed in a car heavily guarded by officers and was taken to a destination that was not made public by the officers.

The whole affair was completed in less than two hours after the negro had been arrested and in less than four hours after the letter was delivered.

NEGRO ASSAILANT HELD.

Itta Bena Black Spirited Away After Alleged Attack on White Men.

Commercial Appeal
12-24-23

ITTA BENA, Miss., Dec. 23.—George Lonzo, negro cropper, has been placed in jail at Greenwood, Miss., to escape possible violence here following his arrest yesterday by Marshal J. Q. Coppedge on charges of assaulting D. [illegible], lawyer, of Doddsville, Miss. and a farmer named Pigg, both of whom were beaten with a pistol and painfully hurt. The attack occurred on the Itta Bena-Doddsville highway about five miles west of this city.

Automobiles driven in opposite directions by the negro and Pigg collided and the negro became abusive, according to Pigg, using a .45-caliber pistol, which he pushed against the white man's breast. At this juncture, Mayor Townsend appeared and seized a pistol from Pigg's car, but the cartridges proved defective, and it would not shoot.

The negro then turned his attack on the mayor, whom he slugged with the pistol, using both hands to make the blow. Marshal Coppedge took Lonzo into custody as the negro was attempting to move his belongings to Minter City, where he planned to make next year's crop. Feeling has been intense since the attack.

Missouri.

1426

Lynchings—1923.
Prevented.

BROOKLYN N. Y. TIMES
DECEMBER 2, 1923

St. Louis Police Avert Lynching by Negroes

St. Louis, Mo., Dec. 1.—Police stood o ffa crowd of Negroes with draw nrevolvers this afternoon and prevented the threatened lynching of Joseph Giardano, who shot and killed an unidentified Negro in his fruit store.

Giardano incurred the Negro's wrath a month ago, he told the police, because he refused to sell him any more liquor on credit.

He shot in self-defense this afternoon, he claimed.

SLAYING SUSPECT SAVED FROM MOB BY HASTY RETREAT

Kansas City, Mo., December 29.—Only the alertness of officials late today saved Abe Pleasant, held for the slaying of Mr. and Mrs. Otto Schimmel from summary [illegible], Kan., says a special dispatch to the Kansas City Star.

Guy Sherman, sheriff, said he had received information a lynching was planned. As a result he curtailed the visit at Hope and sped back to Abilene with the prisoner.

Lynchings – 1923
Prevented.

New Jersey.

1427

BEATEN BY MOB

Newark, N. J., June 29.—William Green, 36, 102 Chestnut St., was taken to the City Hospital [illegible] suffering from injuries received after he was severely beaten by a group of [illegible] men who chased him several blocks after he was alleged to have assaulted Joseph Steinfeld, 42, a bartender in the saloon of Louis Bo[illegible] at 18[illegible] Spruce St., by hitting [illegible] on the head with a beer bottle. The timely arrival of the reserves from the Fourth precinct probably saved Green's life, as he was being badly manhandled when rescued.

MOB GETS ROPES TO LYNCH NEGRO

[illegible] Y C WORLD

JULY 31, 1923

Police Chief Rescues Man Whose Car Hurts Father of Eight Children.

Only the stout fists and broad back of Chief of Police Harry Post of Haskell, N. J., prevented the lynching of Charles Mann of Paterson, a Negro, in Haskell last night.

Mann was dashing through the centre of Haskell at high sped in his touring car, witnesses said, when he crashed head-on into Sam Steffano, fifty, the father of eight children. Steffano was thrown off his bicycle into the gutter, receiving a fracture of the skull and other injuries.

His compatriots—and there were several hundred of them—began to gather around him when the Negro came back to see what injury he had done.

"Sam—the father of eight children!" some one screamed.

And another shouted: "Get a rope and lynch him."

The crowd closed in on the Negro, the latter crying and protesting. But the crowd paid no attention to his wails. Two ropes were procured. A husky with one of the ropes in his hands was pushing toward the Negro when Chief of Police Post edged into the mob and worked his way to the Negro's side.

The Negro, a powerfully built young man of twenty-three, threw himself behind the Chief and prayed, while the Chief brushed aside the nearest men with his fists. Finally Post backed the Negro into the home of Dr. William Meyer. The crowd surrounded the house, demanding that Mann be brought out and strung to the first pole, but finally dispersed.

Chief Post called for an automobile and took Mann to the Passaic County Jail, where he was locked up, charged with atrocious assault and battery.

Steffano had been taken to St. Joseph's Hospital, Paterson, where physicians said he might not live till dawn.

Lynchings—1923.
Prevented.

New York.

1428

POLICEMAN SAVES NEGRO FROM MOB IN NEW YORK CITY

Atlanta Constitution
7-20-23

New York, July 19.—While a mob looked vainly along Seventh avenue, near 37th street, for a post on which to lynch James Gullatte, a negro porter, a policeman last night battled his way to the prisoner's rescue and locked him in a garage for safe keeping until a patrol wagon came.

The negro was charged with attempting to attack an 11-year-old white girl, whom he had dragged into a doorway. Screaming women and shouting men attacked him. He was kicked and beaten and with a clothesline tied about his neck was being led on a search for a stringing-up place when the patrolman charged with gun and night-stick.

EAST SIDE COLORED MEN PREVENT WHITES FROM HARMING NEGRO

New York

Man, Thought Unbalanced, Charged With Following Girl, Saved From White Mob.

Ayer—New York
9-22-23

Colored residents of the East Side, in the neighborhood of 101st street and Third avenue, by their determined stand for law and order prevented a group of lawless whites from mistreating and mishandling a colored man, Samuel Warner, a Porto Rican, who was under arrest.

Warner, who was sent to Bellevue Hospital for observation as to his mental condition, was charged by Miss Leah Lesebrod of 48 East 101st street, with having annoyed her. Patrolman Jacob Harris of the 104th street station responded to the sound of a police whistle blown by the young woman's father, who had seized Warner on the girl's complaint.

9-22-23

In the meantime, however, a large crowd of both colored and white people had gathered. The whites, hearing the charge that the colored man had annoyed the white goirl, became menacing in their attitude, and some of the crowd wanted to take the man away from Lesebrod for summary treatment, but the Negroes objected, declaring that the prisoner should be held and turned over to the police authorities.

When Patrolman Harris arrived on the scene, he saw the situation. Drawing his revolver and club, he made his way through the crowd to Lesebrod's side and took charge of Warner. A taxicab was commandeered and the officer took his prisoner to the machine, although the angry whites were bombarding him with all sorts of missles. The colored people, according to the officer, made no effort to interfere other than to prevent the whites from injuring the prisoner before the arrival of the officer.

When Warren was arraigned in Night Court, Magistrate Bernard Douras was convinced by the man's actions that he was mentally unbalanced, so it was ordered that Warner be taken to Bellevue and placed in the observation ward.

Warner, 30 years old, said he was a graduate of Oxford University, England, and had been sent here by the British government to investigate Marcus Garvey. He denied that he had annoyed Miss Lesebrod and said he was trying to "get an interview." When asked with whom, he said, "With myself."

NEAR LYNCHING IN CITY OF NEW YORK

Montgomery Advertiser
12-4-23

Crowd Makes Effort to Kill Black Who Knocked Down Fellow Workman

NEW YORK, Dec. 3.—A crowd of about 200 men and women today threatened to lynch Edward Edmond, a negro street cleaner, after he was alleged to have knocked down Phillip German, 60-year-old fellow workman, who died from a fracture of the skull after his head hit the curbstone.

Patrolman James O'Kane, who caught Edmond after he fled, held the crowd at bay with his revolver until the police reserves arrived.

The threatened lynching party followed a quarrel between German and Edmond.

Witnesses said the negro became terrified after knocking German down and fled. O'Kane led the chase and when he fired three shots over the head of the fugitive the negro promptly surrendered.

O'Kane thrust his prisoner into a doorway and drew his pistol as there arose angry murmurs of "lynch him" and "string him up."

O'Kane warned the crowd he would protect his prisoner at all costs. Reserves soon dispersed the mob.

Lynchings — 1923. New York.

Prevented

1429

MOB ATTEMPTS TO LYNCH NEGRO LAD ACCUSED BY GIRL

AUGUST 2, 1923

Patrolman Draws Revolver to Save Youth After Chase in Queens.

(Special to The Eagle.)

Richmond Hill, L. I., Aug. 2—Followed by a yelling mob of more than 200 and a score or more of cars through the heart of Richmond Hill for a distance of six blocks, 15-year-old Clifford Chamberlain, a negro, of 5095 Kew Gardens rd., was caught at Metropolitan ave. and 127th st. by Patrolman James Higgins of the Richmond Hill precinct at about 10:30 o'clock last evening. He was accused of attacking a girl.

Young Chamberlain showed fight and Higgins was compelled to subdue him. The officer had all he could do with drawn revolver to keep the eager hands of the mob away from the boy. Patrolman Raymond Asaph of the 14th precinct, Brooklyn, was on his way to work at the time and came to the assistance of Higgins. Between them they succeeded in keeping the mob off and brought the prisoner to the home of Miss Jessie Goodman, 17, of 8905 133d st., Richmond Hill, where she is said to have identified him as the man who had attempted to attack her a few minutes earlier.

According to Miss Goodman, she was returning to her home after seeing a friend to a car on Jamaica ave. when a negro jumped out from behind a tree and attempted to choke her and drag her off. She wriggled free and screamed for help.

In a few seconds the neighborhood was in a turmoil. Neighbors rushed from their houses and glimpsing the running negro chased him, yelling "lynch him," "murder," "police." As the chase swung into Jamaica ave. a motorman on a passing elevated train, hearing the commotion, jammed down the whistle cord and the din of the whistle and horns of motorcars that had joined the chase was added to that of the mob.

Patrolman Higgins on duty nearby heard the din and being fleet of foot soon outdistanced the mob and overhauled Chamberlain in short order.

Chamberlain was locked up in the Richmond Hill police station to await a hearing in the Children's Court at Jamaica tomorrow. The police state that they are under the impression that Chamberlain is the "Peeping Tom" that has been a source of annoyance to residents of this locality for some time.

The negro youth denied the charge made against him by Miss Goodman and declared that he was walking peacefully along when he heard the yell of the mob behind him and started to run.

Miss Goodman after her identification of Chamberlain fainted and was attended for shock and bruises by Dr. Schanno of St. Mary's Hospital, Jamaica.

Lynchings—1923
Prevented

North Carolina.

1419

1419

INFANTRY ORDERED OUT

Negro Prisoner

WILMINGTON, N. C., Jan. 28.—The Wilmington light infantry, a unit of the North Carolina National Guard, was ordered tonight to go to Whiteville and guard Robert Williams, a negro, held there on a charge of the murder of Chief of Police Bradley Cribbs, of Fair Bluff, Thursday night. Solicitor Woodus Kellum, in asking for the troops, reported that he had heard that threats had been made against the negro.

TROOPS GUARD NEGRO ON TRIAL IN N. CAROLINA

Raleigh, N. C., 25.—Following request from Solicitor J. A. Powers, of Kinston, Governor Morrison tonight, as a precautionary measure, ordered three squads of the Goldsboro company of the national guard to Kinston to guard James Miller, who is on trial for murder of John Sutton, well known white planter. The verdict of the jury is expected tomorrow and it was learned here that threats had been current in the Kinston section against the negro in the event that he should be acquitted or that a verdict less than first degree murder should be returned.

Machine Gunners Protect Prisoner

KINSTON, N. C., Feb. 2.—James Miller, was convicted here today of the murder of John Sutton, a planter, near here September 2[illegible], last and was sentenced to die in the electric chair on March 9. Twenty-four men of the machine gun detachment of Battery A, under Captain Mishau were on duty at the court house, but there was no occasion for their services.

Miller was held here to testify at the trial of Bert Jones, who, according to officers, harbored Miller before the latter escaped from the county. Miller was arrested in Baltimore recently and brought back and Sheriff Arden W. Taylor said that on the way back to North Carolina Miller said Jones had lent him the weapon with which he killed Sutton and given him food until he could get away. Jones was convicted and sentenced to serve seven to ten years in the penitentiary.

Judge Thomas H. Calvert, before passing sentence, told Miller he had been given a fair trial and that the evidence justified the verdict. Miller when asked if he had anything to say, asserted that he was innocent.

He was taken to Raleigh under military escort this afternoon.

Spruce Pine Feels Relief Since Negro Has Been Captured

Alleged Assailant of Woman Is Taken to Penitentiary.

CAPTURED NEAR HICKORY

General Metts Assures Highway Builders of Protection.

TROOPS READY FOR DUTY

Soldiers Will Escort First Group of Deported Negroes Back to Spruce Pine Today.

Special to The Observer.

SPRUCE PINE, Sept. 29.—News of the capture at Hickory this afternoon of John Goff, 22 year old negro convict, wanted here for the alleged criminal assault on an aged white woman last Wednesday afternoon, was received with genuine relief. Goff has been sent to the state prison at Raleigh for safekeeping, according to word received by Mayor A. N. Fuller, which precludes the possibility of a lynching, which was held an almost certain outcome had Goff fallen into the hands of armed citizens who had been searching for him since Wednesday afternoon.

Two national guard units are in charge of the situation tonight. Guards with loaded rifles and with fixed bayonets are patroling the streets. Camp has been pitched on the bluff overlooking Spruce Pine from the south. Three machine guns have been set up, commanding the town. Military headquarters are in a cottage on the bluff. The soldiers are bivouaced in their own tents, in residences and in warehouses.

Grand Jury Will Meet.

Judge J. Bis Ray, of superior court, said today that the Mitchell county grand jury will be asked to return indictments against men who participated in the mob activities here Thursday and Friday. The armed mob paraded the streets of Spruce Pine, carrying rifles, shotguns, and pistols. They posed for a photograph in the heart of the town. This photograph, officials said, will be used as evidence against the leaders of the mob.

Major E. P. Robinson, of North Wilkesboro, arrived this afternoon and took direct command of the provisional battalion, which is composed of Troop F, of Asheville, and Company B, engineers, of Morganton. There are about 100 men under arms, fully equipped with rifles, pistols and machine guns.

Military officials said tonight that it may be necessary to reinforce with troops next week. The Toe Cane fair will open Tuesday, and this will bring mountain people into the town from the surrounding county on both sides of the Tennessee border. Officials say that the chief trouble makers of the past few days have been, not Spruce Pine people, but mountaineers living around the town.

In case reinforcements are deemed necessary the Canton signal corps company and Troop G, of Hickory, will be called, it was stated.

Crucial Test Today.

A crucial test of the situation is expected to take place Sunday, when the soldiers will escort the first group of negroes back to the work from which they were driven by armed mobs Thursday and Friday. Word has been circulated that threats have been made that "if the niggers are brought back, we'll kill them."

Mayor Fuller said last night that he doubted whether the first contigent of negroes can be returned before Monday, since the negroes will have to be collected together for the purpose.

The military authorities have instructions from Governor Morrison to bring the negroes back and protect them while they continue work on state highway construction, and on other work. There are perhaps a half-dozen jobs on which negroes were employed. The general plan is to place two squads of armed soldiers on guard at each camp, protecting the negroes while they work. Patrols will be continued in and about the town, and a system of communication will be established. Adjutant General J. Van B. Metts will remain in charge of the military situation.

Sheriff Forbes, of Mitchell county, has deputized 15 citizens, mostly ex-service men and expert marksmen, to aid the soldiers in protecting negroes when they return to work. Captain E. B. Hensley, a veteran of the world war, will be in command of this detachment.

Must Preserve Order.

Acting on orders from Governor Cameron Morrison to preserve the law of the state and to give protection to whites and negroes alike, the soldiers began the task of reaching out into adjoining sections, where the deported negroes are reported to have gone, with the purpose of returning them to highway camps in order that road construction, which has been seriously interfered with, may proceed.

At Rock Creek, 12 miles from Spruce Pine, no negroes will be allowed, according to reports reaching here tonight. Some of the deported negroes were engaged in construction work near Rock Creek. Authorities here are not inclined to take the reports from Rock Creek seriously, however, as it is pointed out that Governor Morrison's orders to the militia are explicit, and that in the event Rock Creek citizens molest the negroes who return, the military will then handle the situation in accordance with their instructions.

At the present time soldiers on duty are merely resting and awaiting developments, if any, which may occur when the negroes begin to return to work.

GOVERNOR OPTIMISTIC SINCE NEGRO CAPTURED

Special to The Observer.

Raleigh, N. C., Sept. 29.—Governor Morrison was advised tonight by Adjutant General Metts, who is at Spruce Pine, that he had notified the construction companies building roads in the vicinity that the state was ready to afford protection for their workmen when they were ready to resume operations.

The construction gangs, composed of many negro laborers, had been withdrawn following threats and demands by local residents that the negroes must move away. Two companies of national guardsmen were sent to Spruce Pine, Friday, upon order of Governor Morrison, to give protection to laborers, white and colored alike.

Governor Morrison expressed the hope that the capture of the negro, for whom posses had been scouring the mountains for two days, and his removal to Raleigh would have a settling influence upo nthe situation in Mitchell county. The negro, John G. Goss, was on his way to Raleigh tonight from Hickory, accompanied by the sheriff of Catawba county, the governor was advised. The sheriff, with his prisoner, was expected to arrive at Raleigh about 4 o'clock Sunday morning.

The governor expressed optimism tonight concerning the outcome of the situation which developed at Spruce Pine, following an alleged attack by a negro convict trusty upon an aged white woman, which precipitated the situation that called for the sending of troops into Mitchell county. He said that Adjutant General Metts, who communicated with the governor early today, seemed at that time to take a rather gloomy view of the situation, reporting that it looked somewhat serious, but that the officer seemed more optimistic tonight.

Commenting upon his course, the governor said that he was determined upon upholding the law at all costs, and that in the Mitchell county situation he saw no alternative but the course he has pursued, unless he was to permit the law to be set a tnaught and the state be subjected to severe criticism.

DEC 8-1923

PROMPTNESS REQUIRED TO STOP LYNCHING

Governor Morrison's announcement of the policy to be pursued by him in his efforts to suppress lynching in North Carolina furnishes a basis on which local authorities can shift squarely onto his shoulders responsibility for the safe-keeping of prisoners whose crimes have been such as to inflame the populace. The Governor willingly accepts such responsibility, declaring his intention of using every "particle of power" given him the Constitution to avert the overthrow of the law by mob violence.

The Nash County authorities can hardly be blamed for looking on the dispatch of troops into their county as a compliment. Whether it was necessary, however, is not a pertinent question. The fact that they rushed Lee Washington to the State Prison, as of course they should have done, indicates that they feared trouble. Why, then, they should resent the readiness with which the Governor sought to aid them in upholding the law they and he are sworn to execute is not understandable.

There is usually a bit of politics in the attitude assumed by the local authorities toward lynchings contemplated and consumated. Unfortunately consideration is often first given to the effect of precautionary action on the people who rather favor lynchings "under certain circumstances" and sometime thereafter to the law

which was about to be over-
thrown.

Nash didn't have a lynching;
hence there was no necessity for
sending troops in and making it
appear that Nash has no respect
for the law. And yet a week or
so before the residents of Nash
took the law into their own hands
and flogged a man whose habits
offended his neighbors. A com-
munity which usurps the powers
of the law in one instance is apt
to do so again; people who will
flog a white man for running after
women will lynch a negro who
overtakes one.

Governor Morrison was not too
hasty in dispatching troops to
Nash. He isn't likely to make a
mistake in sending troops to any
county in which a negro assaults
a white woman. He ought to get
them there as soon after the crime
is committed as possible. The
prevention of lynchings in North
Carolina cannot longer be left to
the counties. If North Carolina
doesn't make some progress in
putting down this type of anarchy
it isn't going to be left to North
Carolina for any great while.

Governor Morrison is rightly
concerned for the reputation of
the State, which has been gravely
impaired. North Carolina cannot
continue to ask for and secure the
extradition from other States of
fugitives from this State's justice
unless some assurance is given of
a fair trial for the alleged offen-
der.

The military power of the State
is at this stage essential to the
protection of the people from
themselves. The Governor is com-
man -in-chief. The wise sheriff,
mayo or other local officer will
promptly call on the Governor to
take charge of such a situation as
close in Nash.

RALEIGH N. C. Obs
Times DEC 7 - 1928

THE GOVERNOR HAS A REMEDY FOR LYNCHINGS

Get There Before the Mob With Troops He Says

WRITES TO NASH

Tells Clerk Of Commissioners He Will Use Every "Particle Of Power" To Uphold Law

"If I get the support of the people, I am going to stop lynching in North Carolina during my term as Governor," said the Governor Friday "And I am going to do it by sending the troops to any community as soon as I learn there is a need for them to prevent mob violence."

The Governor had just written a letter to J. B. Boddie, clerk to the Board of Commissioners of Nash County, in reply to a protest avoiced by the commissioners against the dispatch of troops to Nash to avert the threatened lynching of Lee Washington. The Governor's letter states:

"Your favor of the fifth of December, embodying extract from the minutes of meeting of the Board of Commisisoners held in Nashville on December 3rd, received.

"I am very sorry to know that my action in ordering troops to Nash County recently in the abundance of caution against any possibility of violence being done the prisoner, Lee Washington, does not meet with your approbation.

"I am sure you can never know whether it was necessary or not.

"I am determined to use every particle of power given me by the constitution of this State to prevent lynchings in it while I am Governor.

"'We cannot wait until violence atcaully manifests itself before acting—it would be too late then."

Commenting on this letter, the Governor further stated that the point had been reached at which North Carolina if it did not stop lynchings, could not expect other States to honor its requisitions for escaped criminals. That would disgrace the State in the eyes of the world, something Cameron Morrison expects to prevent at least for the remainder of his term as Governor.

TROOPS ON GUARD AT NEGRO'S TRIAL

Constitution
12-2-28

Rocky Mount, N. C., December 1.—With a detachment of troops from the Wilson Machine Gun company on guard, the trial of Lee Washington, negro, charged with having attacked a white woman at her home near Moneyer several weeks ago, entered the final stage at Nashville today. The hearing started yesterday, but last night officials removed the negro to an unannounced destination, fearing trouble. And on his return to Nashville this morning he was guarded by troops.

Telephone advices from Nashville this morning said a large crowd was in town but that there had been no evidence of any feeling against the negro. The woman alleged to have been attacked and a number of other prosecution witnesses testified yesterday. The negro also testified

Prior to the opening of the trial Washington was confined in the state penitentiary at Raleigh to avoid any chance of mob violence.

Militia Quiets Mob Set Against Black

RALEIGH, N. C., Nov. 26.—Battery D, of the North Carolina National Guard, now on duty at Newbern following an outburst of feeling against John Godette, negro, charged with having killed Edna Williams, 12, when he sped his automobile through a group of school children, probably will be withdrawn Wednesday. Adjutant General Metts said reports were that the town had quieted.

11-27-28

Feeling against Godette was made more intense, petitioners for the troops said because he recently had been convicted of liquor law violations and was at liberty only be-
cause an appeal had been taken.

National Guard Unit to Protect Negro in Carolina

NEWBERN, N. C., Nov. 25.—The local national guard unit was called out here late this afternoon on order of Governor Cameron Morrison, to protect the Craven county jail which is surrounded by a crowd of several hundred persons seeking John Godette, negro, who is charged with killing a little girl here this evening.

11-26-28

Acting on the request of Sheriff Williams made by long distance telephone to Raleigh, Governor Morrison requested Adjutant General Metts to order the troops to take charge of the situation. Battery D, 117th field artillery, was under arms shortly after nightfall and was guarding the jail.

Godette was out under appeal to the United States supreme court from a verdict of violating the prohibition law. It is alleged that he fatally injured Edna Williams 12-year-old school girl, when he drove an automobile into a group of school children, at Croatan, twelve miles from here this afternoon. The negro was overtaken and arrested some time later.

Lynchings — 1923
Prevented.

North Carolina.

14/30

NO. CAR. GOVERNOR FIGHTS LYNCHING

The Guardian

REPLIES TO COUNTY COMMISSIONERS WHO OPPOSE HIS SENDING OF TROOPS—SAYS HE WILL USE ALL HIS POWER AGAINST LYNCHINGS IN NO. CAROLINA. 12-15-23

Raleigh, N. C., Dec. 8, 1923.—Governor Morrison declared in a letter published today that he intended to use "every particle of power given me by the constitution of this State to prevent lynchings" in North Carolina. Boston, Mass.

The letter was in reply to a resolution adopted by the board of county commissioners of Nash County, criticizing the governor for sending troops to Nashville, N. C., for the protection of Lee Washington, Negro on trial charged with attacking a white woman.

Lynchings—1923 Prevented

Oklahoma.

1431

ATTEMPT LYNCHING

Mob of Forty Storm Jeal but Accused Negro Had Been Removed

ST. LOUIS, MO., June 4.—A mob of about 40 armed men stormed the Okfuskee county jail at Okemah, Oklahoma, early today in an effort to lynch two negroes accused of seriously cutting two white youths, according to a telephone message received here. It was stated that the negroes had been removed to another jail 30 miles away before the attack on the Okemah jail.

OKLAHOMA SHERIFF ON THE JOB.

Okemah, Okla., June 14.—A mob which assembled here Monday night apparently intending to storm the county jail where it was believed that two Negro boys were being held after two white youths had been stabbed in a fight, arrived too late. Sheriff McKinnon, fearing trouble rushed the boys to Okmulgee, before the mob had formed, it was learned at the sheriff's office Tuesday morning.

The Negro boys, Bell Lee and Herbert Johnson, were alleged to have seriously cut two white boys in a fight which had resulted when the four met on a sidewalk. Neither pair would give right-of-way and a fight ensued. All of the boys were less than 16 years of age.

Oklahoma Sheriff Foils Mob Bent On Lynching Negro

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OFFICERS SAVE TWO FROM FT. SMITH MOB

Negro Is Spirited to Aonther Before Jail Attacked.

FORT SMITH, Ark., June 4.—A mob of about forty armed men stormed the Okfuskee County jail at Okemah, Okla. at 9:30 o'clock this morning in an effort to lynch two negroes accused of seriously cutting two white youths. The attack was made thirty minutes after the prisoners had been removed to another jail, according to a telephone message received here.

Bill Lee and Herbert Johnson, the two negroes, are now in the Okmulgee County jail at Okmulgee, where they were taken by Okfuskee County authorities when warned of the impending attack. They were arrested at 9:30 o'clock last night.

Marshal Huser andClarence Brown are seriously cut but their wounds are not expected to prove fatal.

The trouble which ended in the cutting affray originated when the two white youths warned the negroes to leave town, it is alleged.

The mob was admitted at the jail by Jailer John Williams after his remonstrations with leaders had failed.

Shortly after the mob dispersed and no further disorders are expected.

SHERIFF OUTWITS MOB

Oklahoma Officer Takes Two To Adjoining Town

(By the Associated Press)

FORT SMITH, June 15.—A mob of about 40 masked and armed men stormed the Okfuskee county jail at Okemah, Okla, at 9:30 o'clock this morning in an effort to lynch two negroes accused of seriously cutting two white youths. The attack was made 30 minutes after the prisoners had been removed to another jail.—

Bill Lee and Herbert Johnson, the two negroes, now are in the Okmulgee county jail at Okmulgee, where they were taken by Okfuskee county authorities when warned of the impending attack. They were arrested at 9:30 o'clock last night.

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MASKED MEN LYNCH ATTACKER OF WOMAN

Eleven Men Overpower Deputies and Seize Prisoner.

MUSKOGEE, Okla., Nov. 3.—Dallas Sowell, accused of attacking a white woman recently, returned to the McIntosh County jail after a break for liberty across Oklahoma into Texas, was lynched by a band of eleven masked men at Eufaula, the county seat of McIntosh County, at 2 o'clock this morning, according to word received here.

The bandits appeared suddenly at the jail, overpowered two deputies, took their keys and made away with their prisoner. Telephone wires leading from the jail had previously been cut.

Following in the direction taken by the band, officers found Sowell's body hanging in a barn on the outskirts of town. The lynchers had dispersed.

Sowell, described variously as a Mexican and a half-breed negro, is alleged to have attacked a woman six weeks ago at her farm home in McIntosh County. He was arrested by Sheriff M. B. Moore, who brought him to Muskoge for safekeeping.

Three weeks ago, upon being returned to Eufaula for his preliminary trial, Sowell escaped from Sheriff Mooro and fled into the Canadian River bottoms. During his flight he took motor cars at Okemah and Hobart, finally being caught in the Texas Panhandle.

Upon his return he was again placed in the Eufaula jail.

Lynchings—1923. Pennsylvania. 1432

Prevented

Police Thwart 2,000 In Mob After Negro

CONSHOCKEN, Pa., July 9.—Calmness prevails in this town Monday following a [illegible] Sunday, in which five determined Lower Merion Township policemen beat back a mob of 2000 that had stormed the jail and were preparing to hang George Smith, a negro who, while intoxicated, had "shot up" the main street following a dispute at a crap game.

Smith, after being placed under arrest and taken to jail by some of the local police, became the object of hatred, and a mob quickly formed. A noose was thrown over a pole near the jail as the mob battered down the doors, but a police squad arrived in time to save the men.

PENNSYLVANIA MOB TRIES TO LYNCH A NEGRO

Police Hold Off 2,000 Men And Women And Save Accused Man

Conshohocken, Pa., July 8.—Two thousand infuriated men and women clamored for the life of a Negro in a cell in the town lock-up here tonight. Captain Donaghy, leadisg five Ardmre policemen, swinging blackjacks aaginst the skulls of some of Conshohocken's citizens, saved the town from a lynching record.

George Smith, 27, had been arrested for sohoting up the town, insulting white women and terrorizing the main street of Conshohocken, which is 12 miles from Philadelphia.

PHILADELPHIA PA RECORD
AUGUST 13, 1923

WHITE MOB CHASES NEGRO IN RACE RIOT DOWNTOWN

Police Say Fugitive Was Responsible for Starting Trouble.

Race rioting in South Philadelphia broke out again last night at Third and Federal streets when Chalmers McDowell, colored, of Oxford street near Twenty-second is said to have told Joseph Pine, of No. 1232 Moyamensing avenue, a white man, that he wasn't wanted in that neighborhood and struck Pine on the jaw.

Instantly white men rushed to his assistance. McDowell drew a gun and when the crowd increased he fired shots in the air, held the men at bay and boarded a trolley car, firing another shot through the window and throwing his gun away.

The motorman brought his car to a stop and threw open the door to let a policeman get McDowell, who jumped out of a window and started to run. The crowd, then five times as large, made after him, catching him at Seventh and Kimball streets. He was protected by a patrolman and arrested on charges of inciting to riot, carrying concealed weapons and firing shots wantonly.

PHILADELPHIA PA N AMER
AUGUST 13, 1923

MOB TRIES TO LYNCH NEGRO DOWNTOWN

Chased After He Strikes White Man and Brandishes Gun

SAVED BY POLICE

A negro struck a white man and then held an infuriated crowd of whites at bay by firing five shots over their heads with a revolver at Third and Federal streets yesterday.

He then jumped on board a one-man trolley and fired over the crowd from the window, after which he threw his empty weapon into the street. A policeman ran after him thru the car, but the negro jumped out a front window and, breaking loose from those who attempted to hold him, ran to Seventh street, followed by the mob, which fired scores of shots after him.

At Seventh and Kimball streets the leaders of the crowd seized him and threatened him with lynching, but police of the Seventh and Carpenter streets station rescued him.

The prisoner said he is Chalmers McDowell, Oxford street near Twenty-second. He is held on charges of carrying concealed deadly weapons and inciting to riot. The white man he struck was Joseph Pine, 1232 East Moyamensing avenue.

Pine said McDowell was drunk and said, "It's no place for white folks down here. Get out!"

BRAVE POLICEMEN SAVE DEMENTED MAN FROM MOB

VICTIM NOT GUILTY OF "USUAL CRIME" RAN AMUCK

Conshohocken, Pa., July 14.—The urgent need of taking care of the huge influx of white southerners who come north, with their old southern customs of barbarity, was never more forcibly demonstrated than in this town last Sunday night, when 2000 cowardly imbeciles, men, women and children, several carrying hopes, surrounded the Chief of Police and demanded that he deliver to them Horace Brown, a Colored man, employed in the steel mills—not because he had even insulted a woman or murdered a man—but because he was either demented or drunk and ran amuck, shooting up the town jjust as white men do at times without even the suggestion of action by a mob

About 9.30 Sunday evening Brown, who is married and has two children, possibly after filling up on poison hootch or going suddenly insane, swept down the main street brandishing a revolver and yelling in approved western style. As the crowd gatherad, the demented man, having emptied his gun, laughed at the cowering multitude and threw it into the gutter. In retaliation several hurled stones which landed on Brown's head. A policeman grabbed the unfortunate victim, clubbing him though he was unarmed. The crowd emboldened by the cowardly brutality of the officer, followed to the lock-up. The news spread and soon everybody, including the town's "best citizens," started toward the jail in approved southern fashion, estimated at 2000 people. "Lynch him,' "String him up," "Let us in or we'll break in," they shouted. While the cops inside were preparing to make a stand, someone threw a rope over the telegraph pole, with the noose and all. The massed hundreds—cowards all—hurled themselves against the outer door, splintering it to bits. Here they met the Chief of Police with his back braced against the door of the prisoner's cell. At one side of the room a policeman was phoning for help. The chief pleaded with the leaders to let the law take its course, but to no avail. They took courage and thrust the officer aside. Just here six cops from Ardmore arrived and with drawn revolvers, pushed through the crowd. Just as one bolder than the others was reaching for the keys to the cell, a cop thrust a gun in his face and he retreated. The leader of the six policemen cried, "You can never take this prisoner as long as we are alive." A vile oath from the mob leader was the reply as the mob again advanced. At that the chief, blackjack in hand, yelled "Come on boys, let them have it."

The six Ardmore policemen fell upon the front rank of the mob, swinging blackjjacks right and left. The thud of the lead against the skulls of the victims and the grunts of unconscious men as they fell to the floor of the jail was heard through the quiet that greeted the latest contest between the representatives of the law and the leaders of the mob.

The very fierceness of the attack evidently scared the crowd. Those in the lead fell back, fearing they would jjoin their unconscious comrades on the door of the jajil.

The prisoner was hastily thrown in the patrol and as it started off a few jjumped on the running board. Several shots and even bricks were fired at the heads of the officers in the auto. Brown was safely landed in the jail at Norristown.

Negro Farmhand Held For Slaying of Woman

Associated Press Report

NEWCASTLE, Pa., July 21.—John Porter, a negro, employed on the farm of B. J. Cole, is in the Butler jail charged with the murder of Mrs. Cole, who was found with two bullets in her head the night of July 4. The arrest was made on the Cole farm near here late last night, and Porter was hurried to Butler because the last time he was arrested in this county, a mob burned his house and tried to lynch him for criminally assaulting a white girl. 7-22-23

The death of Mrs. Cole was looked upon as a suicide by the authorities until new evidence introduced at the coroner's inquest Thursday night, resulted in a verdict of murder.

Lynchings—1923.

South Carolina.

1433

Prevented

Mob Hangs Man Up Then Surrenders Him

Pittsburgh American 1-20-23

(Preston News Service)

COLUMBIA, S. C., Jan. 19.—The mysterious death of a white woman at Olar, a small town near here, caused the arrest of Thomas Johnson as a suspect. He was lodged in jail last Wednesday morning and that night a mob of white men took him from the jail and carried him to a small thicket with the usual intent of making a pendulum of him by tying a slip-noose around his neck and allowing his body to swing in the air from the end of the suspended rope. But somehow their conscience would not allow them to carry out their premeditated plan and they simply "talked and talked" to Johnson and then turned him over to the officers. It is believed Johnson will await trial in connection with the murder of the woman at the special term of court at Bramberg, which will convene shortly.

VIOLENCE IS AVERTED

Negro Rescued From Mob; Seriously Cut White Man

Morning Post 1-20-23

Associated Press

SPARTANBURG, S. C., Jan. 19.—Elias F. Wall, of Chesnee, S. C., twenty miles north of Spartanburg, averted possible action of violence in that section this afternoon when he rescued Arthur Robertson, negro, from a crowd of men and carried the prisoner in his car to the Spartanburg county jail for safe keeping.

The negro is charged with seriously cutting Robert Hall, white man, of the Chesnee neighborhood in a fight on Friday.

Physicians say Hall has slight chance to recover. He has a wife and ten children.

NEGROES TO DIE IN CHAIR TODAY

Pay Penalty for Murder of Aged Couple.

GAINES AND GARVIN

Special Guard Placed Over Death House on Account of Garvin's Threat.

12-21-23.

Julius Garvin and Frank Gaines, negroes from Beaufort county, are to die in the electric chair this morning for the murder of Mr. and Mrs. W. D. Brown over four months ago on Hilton Head island.

The two prisoners have been at the death house for over two weeks, occupying cells separated by that of Jeff Chandler. During their stay there they have been visited several times by negro ministers and others. Gaines has been in a thoughtful and prayerful mood a great part of the time judging by his appearance and actions. Unable to read or write he of necessity spent most of the time not taken up with eating and sleeping in meditation.

Columbia, S. C.

Garvin is able to read and write, and he has learned of the advantage of his knowledge during his two weeks stay in the house which the laws of the state forced him to take as a home until the day of his death. He recently exhibited a spirit of revolt, when he was overheard by officers to declare to Gaines that he would never "die in the damned chair." For that reason penitentiary authorities placed guards to keep continual watch in the death house; and special precautions will be taken this morning when he is led to the electrocution room.

Mr. and Mrs. Brown were struck in the head by a blunt instrument early the morning of July 4. Fire was then set to the house and little store and postoffice adjoining, their bodies being found in the ruins of the house during that week.

Gaines and Garvin fled to Charleston, were apprehended there, brought to the state penitentiary for safe keeping, and taken to Beaufort county where almost three weeks ago they were convicted of murder and sentenced to die in the electric chair.

Lynchings — 1923
Prevented

Tennessee

1434

NEGRO IS TAKEN FROM MEMPHIS FOR SAFEKEEPING

Constitution

Nashville, Tenn., January 13.—John Cooke, negro alleged assailant of a Memphis woman on January 2, was brought here from Memphis tonight and lodged in the state penitentiary for safe-keeping. The wounded negro, who was shot twice when he was captured by farmers in Big Sandy, Benton county, Tennessee, made a full confession at Camden, Tenn., en route to Nashville, officers declare. His full confession was prepared in writing after his arrival at the pen and will be sworn to before a notary public tonight.

AMPUTATE NEGRO'S ARM.

Prison Physician Says John Cook Not Likely to Recover.

Commercial Appeal

John Cook, negro and ex-convict, confessed assailant of Mrs. Thomas P. Cooney, is not likely to recover from bullet wounds inflicted by a Benton County posse when he was captured last Friday, according to the physician at the Tennessee State Penitentiary last night. 1-15-23.

The negro's left arm was amputated yesterday at the shoulder. The operation was made necessary by gangrene and physicians said the negro probably will die from blood poisoning.

Deputy Sheriff M. W. Palmer and Detective Sergeant W. W. Carter returned to Memphis from Nashville yesterday afternoon. They had taken Cook to the Penitentiary for safekeeping after he had been removed to the Camden jail from Big Sandy, near which point he was taken into custody by two farmers.

The officers brought back carbon copies of Cook's complete confession, signed by the negro after he reached the state prison. These were filed at police headquarters and in Sheriff O. H. Perry's office.

Lynchings—1923. Tennessee. 1435

Prevented.

GUARD SHOT BY NEGRO IN CRITICAL CONDITION

Black Rescued From Mob by Police Officers.

Commercial Appeal Memphis, Tenn.

Joe C. Callicutt, workhouse guard for Shelby County, is in a dying condition at Baptist Memorial Hospital and Clyde Stone, negro, is held at police headquarters for safekeeping, pending the outcome of Callicutt's wounds. Stone fired two bullets into Callicutt's body when a county truck in which Callicutt and another guard were taking a load of prisoners to work, skidded into a ditch at Mallory Avenue and Hernando oRad.

Stone, surrounded by irate negroes and whites near 652 East Trigg Avenue, was arrested by police officers and rushed to police headquarters. Later, he was taken to Baptist Hospital and identified by Callicutt. Presence of mind of Detective Sergeant Carter, probably saved Stone from being killed by Callicutt's brother, also a workhouse guard.

The negro prisoner, tlong with several other prisoners, in charge of Callicutt and Earl Lemmon, driver of a workhouse truck, were proceeding to the end of the Lakeview car line to begin work. As the heavy truck reached Mallory Avenue and Hernando Road, it skidded, and almost went into a ditch. 7-21-23

Callicutt jumped from the truck and Lemmon, who was driving, was thrown to one side. Stone, riding on the front seat with Lemmon, snatched the driver's pistol from its holster and, turning, fired twice at Callicutt.

Callicutt fell to the ground seriously wounded and Stone grabbed Callicutt's revolver. Hugh Sims, negro, had just driven up in a taxicab, with an order for the release of one of the prisoners. tSone jumped into Sims' taxi, commanded him to drive away and left the scene of the shooting.

Driver Reports to Police.

Sims drove slowly to a point on Trigg Avenue, where he advised Stone, who was still shackled, to leave the car. Sims then telephoned police headquarters. Meanwhile, Callicutt had been rushed to the Baptist Hospital in a Collins-Sturla ambulance. He is shot in the arm and stomach.

Stone went to the rear of the residence of Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Walters, 652 East Trigg Avenue and demanded an ax with which to cut the shackles that bound him. Mrs. Walters screamed and her husband and neighbors came running.

Stone was quickly surrounded and when Patrol Driver Brownlee and A. C. (Sandy) Lyons reached the scene they had to fight their way through the crowd to get the negro. He was taken immediately to headquarters.

Detective Inspector W. T. Griffin and Detective Sergt. Carter carried the negro to Baptist Hospital for identification. Callicutt immediately identified the negro.

When Detective Carter and the negro prisoner reached the ground floor of the hospital, Callicutt's brother, armed with a heavy pistol, stepped up to the detective.

"Is this the negro who shot my brother?" the man inquired in a tone that told only too well that he intended to kill the negro, if possible.

"No, this is not the negro," Carter answered. "Inspector Griffin wants to see you upstairs right away."

The man finally entered the elevator and Carter slipped the negro into a police automobile. As the elevator bearing Callicutt reached the sixth floor of Baptist Hospital, Inspector Griffin and other officers came down in another elevator. They stepped into the waiting car and returned to headquarters.

"Mr. Callicutt's condition is critical," was the terse report given out at Baptist Hospital last night.

Lynchings — 1923

Tennessee

1436

Prevented

NEGRO IS BROUGHT HERE TO ESCAPE MOB IN MEMPHIS

NASHVILLE TENN. TENNESSEAN
JANUARY 14, 1923

John Cook Confesses to Attack on Memphis Woman.

Safe for the time being within the walls of the state penitentiary here, John Cook, negro, alleged assailant of Mrs. T. P. Cooney in Memphis on the night of January 3, confessed to Shelby County officers that he was the man responsible for the crime.

Cook was brought to Nashville from Benton County Saturday night after fears of mob violence in Memphis had been aroused. He is suffering from two wounds inflicted by farmers in Big Sandy, Benton County, who shot him when he was arrested Thursday. At that time he denied any part in the attack on Mrs. Cooney, who was held captive on the banks of the Mississippi river through one night and was thrown into the muddy waters at dawn. Mrs. Cooney is now in a critical condition as a result of exposure and violence.

Cook has served two sentences in the state penitentiary, one from 1908 to 1914 for attacking a negress, and one from 1914 to 1919 for highway robbery.

He was brought to Nashville by Deputy Sheriff M. W. Palmer, Detective Sargeant W. W. Carter, both of Memphis, and Sheriff E. G. Flowers of Benton county, to whom he made a verbal confession of the assault on the white woman after being taken to Camden, Tenn., where a halt in the trip to Nashville was made to change trains. Deputy Sheriff Palmer turned his prisoner over to Warden Lynn at the penitentiary at 9:30 Saturday night.

A legal confession was given by Cook late Saturday night inside his cell in the sick ward of the penitentiary.

Fear of lynching had rested heavily on the captive since his apprehension.

Recognized as a strange negro Thursday in the community by R. G. Ridick on his farm 10 miles up the Tennessee river from Big Sandy, where the negro had gone to ask for a match, Cook was questioned closely and when ordered to give himself up by Ridick and George Hawkins, a neighbor, he started to run. Ridick and Hawkins opened fire, wounding the negro in the hip and in the shoulder. He got away bleeding, into the swamps on the river, but a posse found him and took him to Big Sandy, where Memphis authorities were notified.

Memphis officers arrived on the scene Friday, where a small crowd had gathered, whose philosophy of the situation, according to Detective Carter, was that "If he is the negro, we'll get him, but if not we'll let him go."

Officers left Big Sandy secretly with their prisoner Saturday morning, fearing violence, and took him to Camden, where he confessed.

The trip to Nashville was kept secret from Memphis, where it was supposed the negro would be brought.

He was slipped off the train here under protection of a squad of Nashville police, was taken up the freight elevator at the Union Station, and was hurried into a taxicab and out to the penitentiary.

It was reported by Lieutenant Redmond Saturday night here that warning had been received that a mob was forming in Memphis to greet Cook on his arival there.

Physicians at the state prison were of the opinion that Cook would not live to face trial. They found five wounds on the man's body, two from pistol shots and three from buckshot. Gangrene has already set in, it was declared

Lynchings—1923 Prevented. Texas. 1437

RANGERS RUSHED TO WACO AS NEGRO ADMITS MURDERS

Houston Post 2-10-23

Governor Acts, Fearing Violence; Confesses to Eight Killings

WACO, Texas, Feb. 9.—Rangers were Waco bound from Austin tonight—a detachment of them—on executive order of Governor Pat M. Neff, issued voluntarily and without request on the part or local county officers.

It is presumed their presence in this city was deemed advisable by the governor, acting on his own initiative, following the confessions made by Roy Mitchell, negro, to county officers last night that he had killed eight white people in Waco and vicinity in the past year, and participated in several assaults of lesser consequence, according to Sheriff Leslie Stegall and County Attorney C. S. Farmer. Developments today, following Mitchell's sensational confession, according to Sheriff Stegall, were:

Others Being Held.

Attorneys Garrett Shelby moved to the legal rescue of Benny Young and Cooper Johnson, negroes, convicted of the Concord axe murders, the attorney's action being based on reported admissions by Mitchell, not yet reduced to writing, that he had enacted that crime single handed.

County Attorney Farmer filed formal complaint charging Mitchell with the murder of Harold Bolton, making five murder charges pending against the negro.

Relatives of the murderer's victims asked that the law be permitted to take its course. County Attorney Farmer announced all possible speed would be made to obtain grand jury indictments of Mitchell and an early trial. The negro found himself in what officers termed "good spirits" after his night long ordeal.

Begged Forgiveness.

L. A. Skipwork, father of Grady, called at the county jail Friday to see Mitchell, charged with having shot his son to death and then disposing of his body by casting it over the cliff.

Mitchell begged Skipworth to forgive him. Skipworth, according to those with him, looked the negro over closely, and shook his head.

The appearance of Skipworth, at the negro's cell was perhaps the tensest one of countless tense moments, filled with high interest, today following the night long admissions of crime made by the prisoner to Sheriff Leslie Stegall and County Attorney Farmer.

FIND CLUE TO KILLING OF GRADY SKIPWORTH

1/31/23 Memphis Tennessee

Watch Charm Discovered in Arrested Negro's Home.

Commercial

WACO, Tex., Jan. 30.—A watch charm alleged to have been worn by Crady Swipworth on the night in last November when he was killed at Lover's Leap, which charm had been reported missing, has been found in the home of Roy Mitchell, negro, arrested on a charge of murdering W. E. Holt and Mrs. Ethel Denecamp recently, Sheriff Stegall announced tonight.

Commercial Appeal 2-1-23

The sheriff's statement tonight was corroborated by Miss Georgia Skipworth, sister of Grady.

The charm, consisting of green dice with holes there in which Grady and his brother, Walter, once drilled, has been positively identified, Miss Skipworth and the sheriff declared.

Mitchell, 30, and Arthur Holsteal, another negro, 35, were arrested yesterday and charged with the murder of Mrs. Denecamp and Holt. Both the sheriff and county attorney, C. S. Farmer, tonight said they believe developments clear up the five murder mysteries in and near Waco.

The whereabouts of the two negroes was not revealed tonight, except for an official statement that they had been spirited away by county officers.

Police Move Negro From Austin; Fear Violence

Houston Post 2-11-23

AUSTIN, Texas, Feb. 10.—Homer Toney, negro, arrested in connection with the shooting Tuesday night of H. C. Greer, merchant, has been removed to San Antonio to prevent any occurrence of violence, Travis county officials stated today. Greer was shot when he came upon a person attempting to rob his store and is in a critical condition in a local hospital, physicians report.

HILL COUNTY NEGRO MOVED SUNDAY FROM CORSICANA TEX SUN MARCH 19, 1923 JAIL IN CORSICANA

Leroy Harris, negro, held in connection with the fatal shooting of Wylie, C. Smithson, white farmer, near Bynum last Tuesday was removed from the county jail and taken to another county early Sunday morning, according to statement of Sheriff Walter Hayes. The negro was brought here by Hill county officers last week and lodged in jail here for safekeeping. Mob violence was feared at Hillsboro, officers said.

Officers of the sheriff's department received word from Hillsboro Saturday night by the officers there directing that the negro be taken from Navarro county that there was strong talk of a mob being formed there for the purpose of coming to Corsicana in an effort to take the negro.

To prevent disturbance the negro was removed. Sheriff's officers and Jailor Tom Smith kept an all night vigil at the jail Saturday night. They refuse to divulge the present custody of the negro.

NEGRO SPIRITED AWAY FROM MOB

The Houston Chronicle 8-12-23

Associated Press Report.

GEORGETOWN, Texas, Aug. 11.—While a mob was clamoring before the county jail here this afternoon for a negro arrested in connection with an attack with an ax upon Will Keeling near here last night, officers managed to take the negro from jail and spirited him to an unknown destination.

Keeling was attacked as he reached home from church and is reported in a serious condition at a hospital at Temple. The negro was arrested and jailed here this morning.

Houston Chronicle 8-12-23

This afternoon nearly 200 men, said to be residents of Jarrell, near where Keeling lived, gathered about the jail, making threatening talk. Sheriff Lee O. Allen and other prominent men of Georgetown engaged leaders of the crowd in conversation, which caused some of the mob to withdraw from the immediate vicinity of the jail. Meanwhile the negro, against whom officers say there is strong evidence of guilt, was placed in an automobile and started to some unnamed North Texas city.

SHERIFF SAVED NEGRO

The Commercial Appeal 8-12-23

Prisoner Spirited Away While Officer Released With Mob.

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POLICE QUESTION BALLARD SLAYER SUSPECTS HELD

Houston Post

Negro and Two White Boys Moved Twice; Feeling High

Houston Chronicle 9-29-23

Associated Press Report.

GREENVILLE, Texas, Sept. 29.—District Attorney T. C. Hutchins of Titus county and two State rangers came here today from Mount Pleasant to question a negro and two white boys held in the Hunt county jail here for safe keeping in connection with the slaying of Otis Ballard, near Mount Pleasant. They declined to state what information if any, had been obtained from the prisoners.

MOUNT PLEASANT, Texas, Sept 29.—The funeral of Otis Ballard, found murdered in Cypress Creek, six miles south of here yesterday, will be held today. A reward of $500 had been offered by citizens here for the finding of Ballard, who had been missing since Monday night.

The body was nude and weighted down in the creek with iron. A sack was wrapped around the head, which had been badly beaten.

A negro and two white boys suspected of implication in the murder were removed from jail here to Mount Vernon Thursday. Last night officers spirited them from Mount Vernon to Greenville.

Ballard was a material witness in a bank robbery case in both Titus and Upshur counties.

Clem Gray, under indictment for bank robbery, was spirited away from here last night to the Bowie county jail at New Boston following the discovery of Ballard's body. Half an hour after he had been taken from the local jail 30 angry men began pursuit of him and the officers, but gave up the chase when within four miles of New Boston.

Lynchings—1923
Prevented

Virginia.

1438

PROF. CHARLES M. THOMAS MOVES TO AVERT LYNCHING

Washington, D. C., March 8.—The quick wit of one of our local educators wel lknown as a conservative yet forceful race man, saved a man's life and probably prevented a serious race clash in one of Virginia's towns which has a record for lynching.

It was while Prof. Thomas was on a train Wednesday, on his way down to his Virginia home to attend the funeral of a very dear friend, that he noticed a colored boy in handcufis. Investigation revealed that the party was on its way to Culpeper, where the boy was wanted on a charge of alleged assault upon a white girl and two other charges equally serious. The boy was Preston Waters, age 19, and with a bad record for several years.

Prof. Thomas knew the bittre feeling among the colored people who have not forgotten the lynching in Culpeper two years ago. He measured the sentiment of the crowd of white citizens who were gathered at Culpeper station to meet the prisoner. He analyzed his own feelings toward such a crime which plcaes in jeopardy the life of every colored men and probably many innocent women in the South. He wired from Orange, the next stop to Culpeper, giving Governor E. Lee Trinkle at Richmond all the facts and urging him to protect the fair name of the State of Virginia.

Governor Trinkle replied by ordering the sheriff to convey his prisoner back to Alexandria city for protection, and the deputies with their prisoner returned from Culpeper on the same train that brought Prof. Thomas back to Washington, Wednesday night.

The thanks of the National Association of Colored People and of the colored people of Virginia are due Governor Trinkle for his prompt action in this instance.

ACT TO HALT NEGRO ATTACK

Richmond Police Rushed to Plant Following Fatal Shooting.

[By The Associated Press.]

Richmond, Va., Aug. 18.—An automomile load of police were rushed to the Hermitage plant of Kingan & Co. today when reports reached headquarters that a crowd of negroes were gathering following the shooting to death last night of John Harris, a negro laborer, by Nathaniel D. Goodwyn, foreman of the plant, and a subsequent attempt on the life of Foreman Satterwhite.

Lynchings—1923.
Reports on, Sent Press.

1455

1-1-24
Record-Herald

1923 LYNCHINGS TOTAL ONLY 28

RECORDS SHOW DECREASE OF MORE THAN 50 PER CENT UNDER 1922

R. R. Morton, principal of Tuskegee Institute for Negroes, has sent out the following annual report of lynchings in the United States during the passing year:

"I find that there were 28 persons lynched in 1923. This is 29 less than the number 57 for the year 1922. Thirteen of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 7 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails.

"We also find that there were 46 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Four women, 3 white and 1 colored, were among those thus saved. Six of these preventions of lynchings were in Northern states and 40 in Southern States. In 37 of the cases the prisoners were removed, or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In the 9 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. In 8 instances during the year persons charged with being connected with lynching mobs were brought to trial. Of the 52 persons thus before the courts only 2 were sent to the penitentiary.

"Of the 28 persons lynched in 1923, 26 were Negroes and 2 were whites; two of the former were women. 7 or one-fourth of those put to death were charged with rape or attempted rape; one of the victims was burned to death; one was put to death and then the body was burned. The charge against the one burned to death was murder.

"The offenses charged against the whites were: Participation in strike depredations. 1, being taken as a Negro, 1, the offenses charged against the Negroes were: murder, 3; murderous assault, 2; rape, 6; attempted rape, 1; killing officer of the law, 2; wounding officer of the law, 2; no charge reported, 3, assisting man charged with rape to escape, 1; resisting posse searching for man charged with rape, 1; rattle stealing, 1; "trying to act like white man and not knowing his place" 1; insulting woman, 1; peeping in window, 1; striking man in altercation 1.

The nine states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 2; Florida, 8; Georgia, 4; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 8; Missouri, 1; Oklahoma, 1; Texas, 2; Virginia 1.

OMAHA, NEB.: NEWS
JANUARY 2, 1924

28 LYNCHED IN '23

Twenty-nine Less Than Those Perpetrated in 1922.

Twenty-eight lynchings occurred in the United States in 1923, according to Tuskegee institute, department of records and research. This is twenty-nine less than those perpetrated in 1922.

Twenty-six of the lynchings were of Negroes, seven being charged with rape or attempted rape. One was burned to death.

Forty-six attempted lynchings were frustrated by law officers. Only two persons connected with lynchings or attempted lynchings were sent to the penitentiary.

The lynchings took place in the following nine states:

Arkansas, 2; Florida, 8; Georgia, 4; Louisana, 1; Mississippi, 8; Missouri, 1; Oklahoma, 1; Texas, 2; Virginia, 1.

FT. WORTH TEX. STAR-TELEGRAM
JANUARY 1, 1924

LYNCHINGS DECREASE IN U. S., REPORT SHOWS

TUSKEGEE, Ala., Jan. 1.—Lynchings in the United States decreased more than 50 per cent during 1923, as compared with 1922, according to figures made public by the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute. During 1923 there were 28 lynchings as compared with 57 for the preceding year, these figures showed. Twenty-six of the number were negroes and two were whites. Two women were among the victims of mobs.

These figures gave Mississippi and Florida eight lynchings each, Georgia four, Arkansas two, Texas two, Virginia one, Missouri one, Oklahoma one, Louisiana one. None was reported from North Carolina, South Carolina and Alabama, according to the Tuskegee compilation.

The Tuskegee report says there were 46 instances during the year in which officers of the law prevented lynchings, 40 of these cases being in Southern States and six in Northern States.

From Daily News
Ministry
Date 1-1-24

28 LYCHINGS IN 1923 AND 57 IN 1922

Associated Press.

TUSKEGEE, Ala., Jan. 1.—Lynchings in the United States decreased more than 50 per cent during 1923 as compared with 1922, according to figures made public by the Tuskegee Normal Industrial Institute. During the last year there were twenty eight lynchings, compared with fifty seven for the preceding year, the figures showed. Of this number twenty-six were negroes and two were whites. Two women were among the victims of mobs. Two lynchings were reported in Texas.

MINNEAPOLIS MINN JOURNAL
JANUARY 1, 1924

Lynchings in 1923 Only Half of 1922 Number

Tuskegee, Ala., Jan. 1.—Lynchings in the United States decreased more than 50 per cent during 1923, as compared with 1922, according to figures made public by the Tuskegee normal and industrial institute. During 1923 there were 28 lynchings as compared with 57 for the preceding year, these figures showed. Twenty-six of the number were Negroes and two were whites. Two women were among the victims of mobs. The report gave Mississippi and Florida eight each, Georgia four, Arkansas two, Virginia one, Missouri one, Oklahoma one, and Louisiana one. There were said to have been 46 instances during the year in which officers of the law prevented lynchings.

SCHENECTADY UNION-ST
Tuesday, January 8, 1924

Fewer Lynchings

WE TRUST, purely as a matter of New Year's optimism, that many of our readers took in the significance of the fewer lynchings last year, as compared with the previous year, as reported on this page the other day.

These statistics on lynching are kept, we presume with impartial care, by Tuskegee Institute, the famous school for colored boys and girls which Booker T. Washington founded in Alabama. Accurate information on the subject is important, because fewer lynchings indicate fewer actual crimes of violence that provoke this form of punishment and at the same time greater intelligence on the part of the southern public that less and less condones this sort of outdoor sport.

Last year there were only twenty-nine lynching bees in the United States, compared with fifty-seven cases the previous year, a falling off of one-half. Equally hopeful with these figures is the statement that forty-six lynchings were prevented by officers of the law. Persons remote from the south often are told they can know nothing about the color line; but these figures lead us to believe that fear and race hatred have in the past aggravated the situation far beyond reason. The fact that the authorities have been successful in averting forty-six murders by violence and torture in a single year substantiates the belief that lynching never has been the work of the "better element," and that a reasonable endeavor to enforce law would do away with it utterly, because lynchers are mostly a cowardly set and lynching is an outburst of unreasoning passion.

FROM Brooklyn Home News
NEW YORK CITY
JAN 6 1924

Less than half as many men were lynched in this land of freedom in 1923 as in 1922. Tuskegee Institute reports that 46 lynchings were prevented last year by officers of the law. This is an encouraging record. James Weldon Johnson of the National Association for the Advancement of the Colored People attributes the change to the northward migration of hundreds of thousands of Negroes and to the fear of Federal intervention inspired in the South by the Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill.—The Nation.

HENDERSON KY Gleaner-Journal
Wednesday, Jan. 2, 1924

YEAR'S LYNCHINGS LESS BY 50 PCT.

Tuskegee Figures Show Mississippi and Florida Leading With Eight Each

TUSKEGEE, Ala., Jan 1—(Associated Press—Lynchings in the United States decreased more than 50 percent during 1923, as compared with 1922 according to figures made public by the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute.

During 1923 there were twenty-eight lynchings, as compared with fifty-seven for the preceding year, these figures showed. Twenty-six of the number were negroes and two were whites. Two women were among the victims of mobs.

These figures gave Mississippi and Florida eight lynchings each. Georgia four, Arkansas two, Texas two, Virginia one, Missouri one Oklahoma one, Louisiana one. None was reported from North Carolina, South Carolina and Alabama, according to the Tuskegee compilation.

The Tuskegee report says there were forty-six instances during the year in which officers of the law prevented lynchings, forty of these cases being in southern states, and six in Northern states.

Thirteen of those lynched last year were taken from the hands of the law, the report states, seven from jails and six from officers outside of jails. Seven of the victims were charged with attack or attempted attack, three with murder, two with murderous assault, two for wounding an officer of the law and the rest with other offenses.

ANGELES EXAMINER
JANUARY 2, 1924

...chings Show Big Decrease in U. S.

TUSKEGEE, Ala., Jan. 1.—Lynchings in the United States decreased more than 50 per cent during 1923, as compared with 1922, according to figures made public by the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute. During 1923 there were twenty-eight lynchings as compared with fifty-seven for the preceding year, these figures showed. Twenty-six of the number were negroes and two were whites. Two women were among the victims of mobs.

These figures gave Mississippi and Florida eight lynchings each; Georgia, four; Arkansas, two; Texas, two; Virginia, one; Missouri, one; Oklahoma, one; Louisiana, one.

STOCKTON, CAL., INDEPENDENT
JANUARY 2, 1924

28 LYNCHINGS DURING 1923

The Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute has issued a lynching record for the year 1923. The records show 28 persons lynched during the year, according to the report, which is sent out over the signature of the principa... as follows:

"I send you the following concerning lynchings for the past yea... as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research, Monroe N. Work in charge. I find that there were 28 persons lynched in 1923. This is 29 less than the number 57 for the year 1922. Thirteen of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 7 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails.

"We also find that there were 46 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Four women, 3 white and 1 colored, were among those thus saved. Six of these preventions of lynchings were in northern states and 40 in southern states. In 37 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In the 9 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. In 8 instances during the year persons charged with being connected with lynching mobs were brought to trial. Of the 52 persons thus before the courts only 2 were sent to the penitentiary.

"Of the 28 persons lynched in ... 26 were Negroes and 2 were ... of the former were ... fourth of ...

one was put to death and then the body was burned. The charge against the one burned to death was murder.

"The offenses charged against the whites were: participation in strike depredations, 1; being taken as a Negro, 1. The offenses charged against the Negroes were: murder, 3; murderous assault, 2; rape, 6; attempted rape, 1; killing officer of the law, 2; wounding officer of the law, 2; no charge reported, 3; assisting man charged with rape to escape, 1; resisting posse searching for man charged with rape, 1; cattle stealing, 1; "trying to act like white man and not knowing his place," 1; insulting woman, 1; peeping in window, 1; striking man in altercation, 1.

"The nine states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 2; Florida, 8; Georgia, 4; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 8; Missouri, 1; Oklahoma, 1; Texas, 2; Virginia, 1.

Yours Very Truly,
R. R. MOTON,
Principal."

TUSKEGEE, Alabama, Dec. 31, 1923.

San Jose, Cal., Mercury-Herald
JANUARY 3, 1924

LYNCHING RECORD IS CUT IN HALF

Two Women Among Victims of Mobs; Twenty-Six Are Negroes, Two Whites.

TUSKOGEE, Ala., Jan. 2.—Lynchings in the United States decreased more than 50 per cent during 1923, as compared with 1922, according to figures made public by the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute. During 1923 there were 28 lynchings as compared with 57 for the preceding year, these figures showed. Twenty-six of the number were negroes and two were whites. Two women were among the victims of mobs.

These figures gave Mississippi and Florida eight lynchings each, Georgia four, Arkansas two, Texas two, Virginia one, Missouri one, Oklahoma one, Louisiana one.

The Tuskegee report says there were 46 instances during the year in which officers of the law prevented lynchings.

Wash...
TUE...

FEWER LYNCHINGS THAN EVER BEFORE

DECREASE BY FIFTY PER CENT IN 1923—ONLY 28 REPORTED

(By The Associated Press)

TUSKEGEE, Ala., Jan. 1—Lynchings in the United States decreased more than 50 per cent during 1923, as compared with 1922, according to figures made public by the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute. During 1923 there were 28 lynchings, as compared with 57 for the preceding year, these figures showed. Twenty-six of the number were negroes and two were whites. Two women were among the victims of mobs.

These figures gave Mississippi and Florida eight lynchings each, Georgia four; Arkansas 2; Texas 2; Virginia 1; Missouri 1; Oklahoma 1; Louisiana one.

The Tuskegee Institute reports that in two cases the law prevented hanging of two men.

SANTA ANA, CAL., REGISTER
JANUARY 3, 1924

...chings Show Big Decrease in U. S.

TUSKEGEE, Ala., Jan. 3.—Lynchings in the United States decreased more than 50 per cent during 1923, as compared with 1922, according to figures made public by the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute. During 1923 there were twenty-eight lynchings as compared with fifty-seven of the preceding year, these figures showed. Twenty-six of the number were negroes and two were whites. Two women were among the victims of mobs.

These figures gave Mississippi and Florida eight lynchings each; Georgia, four; Arkansas, two; Texas, two; Virginia, one; Missouri, one; Oklahoma, one; Louisiana, one.

TAMPA, FLA., TRIB.
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 2, 1924.

Lynchings in U. S. Decreased 50 Per Cent During 1923

TUSKEGEE, Ala., Jan. 1.—Lynchings in the United States decreased more than fifty per cent in 1923 as compared with 1922, according to figures issued by the Tuskegee normal and industrial institute Tuesday. During 1923 there were 28 lynchings as compared to 57 the preceding year, these figures showed. Tenty six of the number were negroes and two whites. Two women were among the victims of the mobs.

These figures gave Mississippi and Florida eight lynchings each; Georgia, four; Arkansas and Texas, two each; Virginia, one; Missouri, one; Oklahoma, one; Louisiana, one. None were reported from North Carolina, South Carolina or Alabama, according to the Tuskegee compilation.

The Tuskegee report showed there were 46 instances during the year in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Forty of these cases were in southern states and six in northern states.

Thirteen of those lynched last year were taken from the hands of the law, the report stated. seven from jails and six from officers outside of jails. Seven of the victims were charged with attack or attempted attack, three with murder, two with murderous assault, two with wounding an officer of the law, and the rest with other offenses.

FT DODGE IOWA MESS
FRIDAY, JANUARY 11, 1924.

COMBATING THE LYNCHING EVIL

In his annual report on lynchings in the United States R. Moton, principal of the Tuskegee institute, shows a gratifying reduction in the number.

Twenty-eight persons were lynched in 1923, as compared with fifty-seven in the preceding year. Only two white persons suffered from the vengeful fanaticism of the mob. Florida and Mississippi had eight lynchings each, Georgia was next with four and Arkansas followed with two. In each of six other southern or southwestern states there was one lynching.

Even more significant than the sharp reduction in the number of lynchings is the fact that in no fewer than forty-six cases officers of the law prevented mob murder by vigorous performance of duty in protecting their prisoners. In nine instances armed force was used to repulse would-be lynchers.

Public determination to stamp out mob violence and enforce due process of law is admitted by all to be an important factor in the improved situation, but of late other notable factors have added their influence. The northward movement of colored laborers is one of these and the agitation in and out of congress for federal anti-lynching legislation is another.

The south is hostile toward federal legislation designed to reenforce its efforts to combat the lynching evil. It should diligently s... make federal intervention unnecessary by ...rengthening state laws directed against mob usurpation of power and by building up a public sentiment that will brook no such usurpation.

NEW YORK (N.Y.) HERALD
January 1, 1914

MOTON SAYS LYNCHINGS DROPPED A HALF IN 1923

57 Were Put to Death in 1922 and Only 28 in 1923.

TUSKEGEE, Ala., Dec. 31.—R. R Moton, principal of the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute, has issued his annual statement on lynchings in the United States. He says:

"I find that there were twenty-eight persons lynched in 1923. This is twenty-nine less than the number fifty-siven for the year 1922. Thirteen of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, seven from jails, and six from officers of the law outside of jails.

"There were forty-six instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Four women, three white and one colored, were among those thus saved. Six of these preventions of lynchings were in Northern States and forty in Southern States. In thirty-seven of the cases the prisoners were removed or guards augmented or other precautions taken. In the nine other instances armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. In eight instances during the year persons charged with being connected with lynching mobs were brought to trial. Of the fifty-two persons thus before the courts only two were sent to the penitentiary.

"Of the twenty-eight persons lynched in 1923, twenty-six were negroes and two were whites; two of the former were women. The nine States in which lynchings occured and the number in each State are as follows: Arkansas, two; Florida, eight; Georgia, four; Louisiana, one; Mississippi, eight; Missouri, one; Oklahoma, one; Texas, two; Virginia, one."

JACKSONVILLE, Fla., Dec. 31.—Eugene Burman, negro, lynched yesterday near Jacksonville by a band of white men, and Edgar Phillips, negro, whose headless body was found in McGirts' Creek Saturday, were victims of a "death code" of Duval county moonshiners, according to the authorities. A moonshiners' death code includes capital punishment for many offenses, according to officials.

SANTA BARBARA, CAL., PRESS
JANUARY 2, 1924

...ynchings Reduced by Half in 1924

TUSKEGEE, Ala., Jan. 1.—Lynchings in the United States decreased more than 50 per cent during 1923, as compared with 1922, according to figures made public by the Tuskegee Institute. During 1923 there were 28 lynchings, as compared with 57 for the preceding year, these figures showed. Twenty-six of the number were negroes and two were whites. Two women were among the victims of mobs.

Lynchings – 1923.
Reports on Sent Press.

Jan. – Dec.
1272

1272

Hattiesburg Miss
American
JAN 1 - 1924

LYINCHINGS FIFTY PERCENT LESS, 1923, THAN YEAR 1922

Total of 28, Twenty-six Negroes, Two White Persons; Mississippi and Florida Lead, Eight Each

(By Associated Press)

Tuskegee, Ala., Jan. 1.—Lynchings in the United States decreased more than 50 per cent during 1923, as compared with 1922, according to figures made public by the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute. During 1923 there were 28 lynchings as compared with 57 for the preceding year, these figures showed. Twenty-six of the number were negroes and two were whites. Two women were among the victims of mobs.

These figures gave Mississippi and Florida eight lynchings each, Georgia four, Arkansas two, Texas two, Virginia one, Missouri one, Oklahoma one, Louisiana one. None was reported from North and South Carolina and Alabama, according to compilation.

The report says there were 46 instances during the year in which officers of the law prevented lynchings, 40 of these cases being in the southern and six in the northern states.

Thirteen of those lynched last year were taken from the hands of the law, the report stated, seven from jails and six from officers outside jails. Seven of the victims were charged with attack or attempted attack, three with murder, two with murderous assault, two for wounding an officer of the law and the rest with other offenses.

Greenville, S. C., Piedmont

JAN 1 - 1924

JAN 1 - 1924

NO LYCHINGS IN S. C. DURING 1923

R. R. Moton, president of Tuskeegee Normal and Industrial Institute, sends out the following letter on lynchings during 1923:

I send you the following concerning lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the department of Records and Research Monroe N. Work in charge. I find that there were 28 persons lynched in 1923. This is 29 less than the number 57 for the year 1922. Thirteen of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 7 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails.

We also find that there were 46 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Four women, 3 white and one colored, were among those thus saved. Six of these preventions of lynchings were in Northern States and 40 in Southern States. In 37 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In the nine other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. In eight instances during the year persons charged with being connected with lynching mobs were brought to trial. Of the 52 persons thus before the courts only two were sent to the penitentiary.

Of the 28 persons lynched in 1923, 26 were negroes and two were whites; two of the former were women. Seven or one fourth of those put to death were charged with rape or attempted rape; one of the victims was burned to death; one was put to death and then the body was burned. The charge against the one burned to death was murder.

The offenses charged against the whites were: Participation in strike depredations, 1; being taken as a negro, 1. The offenses charged against the negroes were: Murder, 3; murderous assault, 2; rape, 6; attempted rape, 1; killing officer of the law, 2; wounding officer of the law, 2; no charge reported, 3; assisting man charged with rape to escape, 1; resisting posse searching for man charged with rape, 1; cattle stealing, 1; "trying to act like white man and not knowing his place," 1; insulting woman, 1; peeping in window, 1; striking man in altercation, 1.

The nine States in which lynchings occurred and the number in each State are as follows: Arkansas, 2; Florida, 8; Georgia, 4; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 8; Missouri, 1; Oklahoma, 1; Texas, 2; Virginia, 1.

MONTGOMERY, ALA.
JAN 4 - 1924
adv. Trib.

NO LYNCHINGS IN ALABAMA.

The lynching record by States for 1923, as collected and published by Tuskegee Institute, is cause for great gratification to Alabamians. It appears that there was not one single instance of successful mob violence in Alabama last year.

Arkansas had 2, Florida 8, Georgia 4, Louisiana 1, Mississippi 8, Missouri 1, Oklahoma 1, Texas 2, and Virginia 1—and Alabama none!

Commenting upon the distinction which has thus come to Alabama, and upon the question of lynching in general, the Gadsden Times-News says:

> Of the 28 persons lynched, 26 were negroes. This is about the usual proportion and the reduction in the number of instances of these violent and unlawful acts may be in some measure accounted for by the efforts to bring about a better understanding between the whites and the negroes.
>
> If the fact is recognized that the two races cannot mingle on an equal plane and the sincere efforts to better the condition of the negro and to bring about better understanding between the two races is continued there is only one other thing left which works against the stamping out of the lynching evil. That is the slowness of the courts.
>
> Slow court action is not really an excuse which would justify lynching, yet it is the reason given in many lynching cases. Speeding up the courts and taking legal action where crimes are charged will do much to stop illegal action, in the form of lynching.

Juries are slower to convict participants in mobs than they are to try men whose acts inflame mobs. In Alabama juries are no more determined to punish lynchers than in other States, but for a generation it has been the good fortune of the State to have Governors who did not hesitate to force the removal of sheriffs who failed in their duty in the face of mobs.

Another reason for the good showing which Alabama made in 1923 is that relations between white and black have not been better since before the War Between the States.

LYNCHINGS REDUCED BY HALF IN 1923

Tuskegee Institute Figures Show Twenty-Eight Against Fifty-Seven for 1922.

TUSKEGEE, Ala., Dec. 31.—According to the figures compiled by Tuskegee Institute twenty-eight persons were lynched in 1923, twenty-nine less than the fifty-seven for 1922. Thirteen of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, seven from jails and six from officers outside of jails.

There were forty-six instances in which officers prevented lynchings. Four women, three white and one black, were among those thus saved. Six of these preventions were in northern States and forty in southern states. In thirty-seven of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In nine instances armed force was used to repel mobs. In eight instances persons charged with being in lynching mobs were brought to trial. Of the fifty-two thus before the courts only two were sent to a penitentiary.

Of the twenty-eight lynched in 1923, twenty-six were negroes and two were whites; two of the former were women. Seven or one-fourth of those put to death were charged with assaults or attempted assaults on women. One of the victims was burned to death; one was put to death and then the body was burned.

The offenses charged against the whites were participation in strike depredations, 1; being taken as a negro, 1. The offenses charged against the negroes were: Murder, 3; murderous assault, 2; assault on women, 6; attempted assault on women, 1; killing officer, 2; wounding officer, 2; no charge reported, 3; assisting man charged with assault on women to escape, 1; resisting posse, searching for man, 1; cattle stealing, 1; "trying to act like white man and not knowing his place," 1; insulting woman, 1; peeping in window, 1; striking man in quarrel, 1.

The nine States in which lynchings occurred and the number in each State were as follows: Arkansas, 2; Florida, 8; Georgia, 4; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 8; Missouri, 1; Oklahoma, 1; Texas, 2, and Virginia 1.

NEWARK ADVOCATE
JANUARY 1, 1924

28 LYNCHINGS IN LAST YEAR

Tuskegee Institute Gives the Summary of Mob Law Crimes for 1923.

Records compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the department of records and research, Monroe N. Work in charge, reveal that here were 28 persons lynched in 1923. This is 29 less than the number 57 for the year 1922. Thirteen of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, seven from jails, six from officers of the law outside of jails.

There were 46 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Four women, three white and one colored, were among those thus savel. Six of these preventions of lynchings were in northern states and 40 in southern states. In 37 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In the nine other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. In eight instances during the year persons charged with being connected with lynching mobs were brought to trial. Of the 52 persons thus before the courts only two were sent to the penitentiary.

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The offenses charged against the whites were: participation in strike depredations, one; being taken as a negro, one. The offenses charged against the negroes were: murder three; murderous assault, two; criminal assault, six; attempted criminal assault, one; killing officer of the law, two; wounding officer of the law, two; no charge reported, three; assisting man charged with criminal assault to escape, one; resisting posse searching for man charged with criminal assault, one; cattle stealing, one; "trying to act like white man and not knowing his place," one; insulting woman, one; peeping in window, one; striking man in altercation, one.

The nine states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state as as follows: Arkansas, two; Florida, six; Georgia, four; Louisiana 1; Mississippi, eight; Missouri, 1; Oklahoma, one; Texas, two; Virginia, 1.

Yours very truly,
R. R. MOTON, Principal.

Greer, S. C.
JAN 4 - 1924
Citizen

Drop in Lynchings In United States

Decrease of More Than Fifty Per Cent. Show in Year's Record.

Tuskegee, Ala.,. Jan. 1.—Lynchings in the United States decreased more than 50 per cent. during 1923 as compared with 1922, according to figures made public by the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial institute. During 1923 there were 28 lynchings as compared with 57 for the preceding year. These figures showed, twenty-six of the number were negroes and two whites. Two women were among the vicitms of mobs.

These figures gave Mississippi and Florida eight lynchings each, Georgia 4; Arkansas 2; Texas 2; Virginia 1; Missouri 1; Oklahoma 1; Louisiana 1. None were reported from North Carolina, South Carolina, and Alabama, according to the Tuskegee compliation.

The Tuskegee report says there were 46 instances during the year in which officers of the law prevented lynchings, 40 of these cases were in Southern states and six in Northern states.

Thirteen of those lynched last year were taken from the hands of the law, the report stated, seven from jails and six from officers outside of jails. Seven of the victims were charged with attack or attempted attack, three with murder, two with murderous assault, two for wounding an officer of the law and the rest with other offenses.

MONTGOMERY, ALA. Journal

JAN 2 - 1924

THE LYNCHING RECORD.

Southern men and women have long answered the argument in favor of anti-lynching law with the statement that the problem is being solved by the activity of the law and the changing mental attitude of the people and that not many years will pass before lynching will be relegated to the list of vices that were. The record for 1923 indicates that the answer of the South is the proper one and that the problem is surely being solved.

Fifty-seven persons were put to death by mobs during 1922 and the number was reduced to twenty-nine in 1923, according to records of the research division of Tuskegee Institute. This is a reduction of a little more than fifty per cent. More impressive than the figures is the announcement that officers of the law frustrated mobs in forty-six instances during the year. This shows plainly that officers are taking their responsibility more seriously and are putting forth a more determined effort in support of law observance. If officers will do their duty in all cases lynching can be stopped in time. A great majority of the people do not lend any aid whatever to persons who seek to take the law into their own hands and are always ready to lend a helping hand to officers who really desire to force all violators to answer to the law for their crimes.

Statesville, N.C.
Landmark
JAN 3 - 1924

THE DECREASE IN LYNCHINGS.

The lynching record for 1923 is reduced a fraction over 50 per cent, as compared with 1922. That is to say, mob murders last year were only 28, while in 1922 there were 57. Evidently lynching is on the decline. At last there is hope that this blot on our Southern civilization is to be removed. It will be a long time before it entirely disappears. But the best evidence that it is going is not only the decrease in the number of lynchings last year, which is astonishing considering that lawlessness generally seems to be increasing rather than decreasing, but the fact that there were 46 instances during the year in which officers of the law prevented lynchings, and 40 of these were in the Southern States. That is the best evidence that mob murder is falling into disfavor. Law enforcement officers, from Governors of States on down, have not only realized that they can prevent these mob murders, but that it is the popular thing to do. They could have been prevented all along. The trouble was that public officials feared the people; they thought public sentiment actually approved the lynchings. Public opinion has at last made itself felt. The lynchers as a rule represented but a small minority and not a desirable minority at that.

We haven't yet reached the point of punishing the murderers, with a few exceptions. Fifty-two persons were called into court last year, charged with participation in mob murders, but only two of the 52 reached State prison. While the disposition to punish this class of crime is yet lacking, the fact that a half hundred persons were arrested and that two got to State prison, is some evidence of progress. But the most gratifying evidence is the actual decrease in lynchings and the number of preventions.

As is usual, the lynchings disprove the old story that they are the result of the crime against women. Of the 28 lynchings last year, only one-fourth were charged with this offense. A white man was lynched for participating in a strike and a negro was lynched for "trying to act like a white man and not knowing his place."

Anderson, S.C.
Mail
JAN 1 - 1924

LYNCHINGS LAST YEAR DECREASED 50 PER CENT

Mississippi and Florida Lead With Eight Each—None in South Carolina.

Tuskegee, Ala., Jan. 1.—Lynchings in the United States decreased more than 50 per cent during 1923 as compared with 1922, according to figures made public by the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial institute. During 1923 there were 28 lynchings are compared with 57 for the preceding year, these figures showed. Twenty-six of the number were negroes and two whites. Two women were among the victims of mobs.

These figures gave Mississippi and Florida eight lynchings each, Georgia 4, Arkansas 2, Texas 2, Virginia 1, Missouri 1, Oklahoma 1, Louisiana 1. None was reported from North Carolina: South Carolina, or Alabama, according to the Tuskegee compilation.

The Tuskegee report says there were forty-six instances during the year in which officers of the law prevented lynchings, forty of these cases were in Southern states and six in Northern States.

Thirteen of those lynched last year were taken from the hands of the law, the report stated, seven from jails and six from officers outside of jails. Seven of the victims were charged with attack or attempted attack, three with murder, two with muredous assault, two for wounding an officer of the law, and the rest with other offenses.

PHILADELPHIA BULLETIN
DECEMBER 28, 1923

DIMINISHED LYNCHINGS

Perhaps it is too early to generalize on the marked diminution of lynchings in 1923, when but twenty-six mob murders disgraced the South as against sixty-one in 1922. This is the lowest in forty-five years, and from the terrible peak of 208 lynchings, which was reached in 1892, to this year's descent to twelve per cent. of that total is an encouraging story of amelioration.

No doubt a variety of causes have contributed to the result. Fear of the Dyer anti-lynching law, as suggested by the secretary of the National Association for the Welfare of Colored People, may have permeated the consciousness of mob leaders and influenced them to caution in stirring up lawlessness. Migration of negroes North might operate in two ways, by taking restless and discontented spirits away from the lynching States, and by awakening communities to the necessity for better treatment of the most valuable plantation labor.

In justice to the Southern people, however, it is but fair to note that lynchings have been gradually decreasing through the past generation, with puzzling fluctuations. Thus in 1917, the first year of the war, there were but thirty-eight lynchings, while in the following year the number rose to sixty-four. In 1912 and 1913 there were fifty-two lynchings each. This year, that record is cut in half.

Vienna, Ga.
News
JAN 3 1924

LYNCHING REDUCED FIFTY PER CENT

FIGURES COMPILED BY PRESIDENT OF TUSKEGEE SHOW SHARP DECLINE IN DEATHS FROM LYNCHING.

From Tuskegee Institute come the following information concerning lynching during the past year:

"I send you he following concerning lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research, Monroe N. Work in charge. I find that there were 28 persons lynched in 1923. This is 29 less than the number 57 for the year 1922. Thirteen of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 7 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of pails.

"We also find that there were 46 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Four women, 3 white and 1 colored, were among those thus saved. Six of these preventions of lynchings were in Northern States and 40 in Southern States. In 37 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In the 9 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. In 8 instances during the year persons charged with being connected with lynching mobs were brought to trial. Of the 52 persos thus before the courts only 2 were sent to the penitentiary.

Of the 28 persons lynched in 1923 26 were Negroes and 2 were whites; two of the former were women, 7 or on fourth of those put to death were charged with rape or attempted rape; one of the victims was burned to death; one was put to death and then the body was burned. The charge against the one burned to death was murder.

The oenses charged against the whites were: participation in strike depredations, 1; being taken as a Negro, 1. The offenses charged against the Negroes were: murder, 3; murderous assault, 2; rape, 6; attempted rape, 1; killing officer of the law, 2; wounding officer of the law, 2; no charge reported, 3; assisting man charged with rape to escape, 1; resisting posse searching for man charged with rape, 1; cattle stealing, 1; "trying to act like white man and not knowing his place," 1; insulting woman, 1; peeping in window, 1; striking man in altercation 1.

The nine states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 2; Florida, 8; Georgia, 4; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 8; Missouri, 1; Oklahoma, 1; Texas, 2; Virginia 1.

Houston, Tex. Post
DEC 22 1923

26 Lynchings in U. S. In 1923; 61 in 1922

Associated Press Report.

NEW YORK, Dec. 21.—Lynchings in the United States during 1923 numbered 26, against 61 in 1922, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People announced today. The decrease was laid to agitation for a federal anti-lynching law and the northward migration of negroes.

Mississippi and Florida were reported to lead with five lynchings each. Georgia was listed with four, Oklahoma, three, and Arkansas, Alabama and Texas, two each. Louisiana, Missouri and Virginia each had one.

Lynchings—1923.
Reports on Sent Press.

Jan.—Dec.

1456

COLUMBIA S C RECORD
MONDAY, JANUARY 14, 1924.

THE LYNCHING RECORD.

According to figures lately released by Robert Russa Moton, principal of Tuskegee Institute, Tuskegee, Ala., less than half as many lynchings took place in the United States in 1923 as was the case in 1922. But the record was bad enough at that. Nine States receive discredit marks in the Moton report.

Mississippi and Florida tie for first place in the lynching record, each reporting eight. In seven other States lynchings took place, as follows: Arkansas, 2; Georgia, 4; Louisiana, 1; Missouri, 1; Oklahoma, 1; Virginia, 1, and Texas 2.

After noting these figures the esteemed Dallas Morning News, pays a much appreciated tribute to the Carolinas for the showing they made in escaping entirely all semblance of that sort of outlawry. We take pleasure in giving an excerpt from our Dallas contemporary's viewpoint:

Neither of the Carolinas appears to have staged a lynching last year, notwithstanding there is a large colored population in both those States. South Carolina has perhaps a preponderance of negroes, but for one reason or another there is little race disturbance there. Virginia had one lynching and there are proportionately far fewer negroes in that State than in South Carolina.

On the other hand, Mississippi, where the blacks have outnumbered the whites for a century, there were eight lynchings. The white population's attitude toward crime is the same in all the States. Therefore, it would be interesting to have an authoritative statement of the conditions which seem to create race enmity in one State and race amity in an adjoining State.

It may be remarked also that in South Carolina, where the agricultural labor is mostly black, there is a high average of prosperity on the farms. Perhaps the landlords are influential enough not only to forbid but punish irresponsibles inclined to "whitecap" or otherwise intimidate negro labor, as is not uncommon in some regions.

If so, there are other Southern States which might profit by South Carolina's example. Farms without workers are not good property, and no one knows this better than the South Carolinians, who have been farming with negro labor three hundred years.

The amity apparent to our Dallas neighbor between the white and the negro races in South Carolina is not primarily due to the need of farm or other classes of labor. It is due to the fact that as a general rule the two races stay in their own places and obey the law.

The negro has become quite a fixture in South Carolina, owning thousands of dollars worth of property. He is intent on measuring up to citizenship standards on this account. He pays his taxes and he has his public and private schools and his costly churches, and these have greatly helped him.

Nobody has coddled the negro in this State and nobody has undertaken to hold his coat-tails when the urge came to him to seek greener pastures in the North and West. While this has been the rule, the migration from South Carolina on the part of the negro has not been alarming.

Another reason why South Carolina has quit lynching is that the courts have been doing their duty in enforcing the laws and our people have found out that lynching bees are not good for them. But the primary reason for the splendid showing South Carolina has made in this respect is that the negro has apparently decided that he would rather live than meet sure death, legal, or otherwise, for a certain offense.

JAN 2 - 1924

The Lynching Record

Decrease in the lynching record for 1923 is something for which all good citizens may give thanks in the beginning of the new year. Last year only 28 were done to death unlawfully, as compared with 57 in 1922. Whatever the cause, fewer crimes, increased vigilance of the authorities, the gradual strengthening of public opinion against mob violence (let us hope it was not merely the operation of the laws of chance), the figures are encouraging to all believers in the orderly processes of law.

Mississippi and Florida head the list of lynching States for 1923, with eight instances of executions by mobs without process of law. North Carolina 's name for the past year is clear of the blot of organized and illegal killing.

Among those lynched were two colored women; two were white men. One Negro, charged with murder, was burned to death. Bad enough, is this story; but it is far brighter than the record of past years.

KENTLAND, IND., ENTERPRISE
Thursday, Jan. 10, 1924

MOBS IN 1923.

Lafayette Journal

From Tuskegee institute, department of records and research, comes the story of lynchings for 1923. Monroe N. Work, in charge of the bureau, reports that twenty-eight persons were lynched in the last year in the United States. The lynching tragedies were fewer by twenty-nine than in 1922, when fifty-seven lynchings took place.

Of the twenty-eight persons lynched, thirteen were taken from officers of the law—seven being removed from jails to be murdered by mobs. In forty-six cases, it is reported, officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of the twenty-eight lynched, twenty-six were negroes and two were whites, two of the negroes being women.

Nine states were shamed by the mob in 1923—Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, Oklahoma, Texas and Virginia. Florida and Mississippi each went on record with eight lynchings.

To intensify and aggravate the disgrace of mob activities it may be noted that in only eight cases in 1923 were persons accused of mob connection with mobs, two were sent to the penitentiary.

It is the nature of the mob that it makes criminals in droves—one crime, sought to be "avenged" by the mob, thus may create a thousand additional criminals. And it is to be said to the discredit of the mob-ridden community in most instances that it is still extremely difficult to get action for the punishment of the persons who make up the mob, no matter how hideous and uncalled-for its lawless and murderous deed may have been.

It is not for any state or community to wax over-noisy in criticism or condemnation of the states and communities branded by mob misdeeds. The primary need is for each community to make itself safe and secure against all lawlessness and against the incentives and tendencies that breed mobs.

Marshalltown, Ia., Times-Republican
Tuesday, Jan. 8, 1924

LYNCHINGS DECREASE.

Reduction of More Than 50 Per Cent During Year.

By Associated Press.

Tuskegee, Ala., Jan. 11.—Lynchings in the United States decreased more than 50 per cent during 1923, as compared with 1922, according to figures made public by the Tuskegee normal and industrial institute. During 1923 there were 28 lynchings as compared with 57 for the preceding year, these figures showed. Twenty-six of the number were negroes and two were whites. Two women were among the victims of mobs.

These figures gave Mississippi and Florida eight lynchings each. Georgia four; Arkansas two; Texas two; Virginia one; Missouri one; Oklahoma one and Louisiana one.

The Tuskegee report says there were forty-six instances during the year in which officers of the law prevented lynchings.

DAYTONA FLA NEWS
FRIDAY, JANUARY 11, 1924

Lynchings Last Year Cut Down 50 Percent

TUSKEGEE, Ala., Jan. 11.—Lynching in the United States decreased 50 per cent during 1923 as compared with 1922, it was revealed here recently in statistics made public by the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial institute. There were 28 lynchings during 1923, as compared with 57 for the preceding year, the report showed. Of this number, 26 were negroes and two were whites. Two women were among the victims of mobs.

The figures, as given by states, gave Mississippi and Florida eight lynchings each; Georgia four; Arkansas two; Texas two; Virginia one; Missouri one; Oklahoma one; and Louisiana one.

MUNCIE, IND., PRESS
Saturday, Jan. 12, 1924

Fewer negroes were lynched in 1923 than at any time in the last thirty years. More negroes left the South for the North in 1923 than in any year in history. Maybe there's some connection.

Maryville Tenn
Enterprise
1-4-24

LYNCHINGS LESS DURING LAST YEAR

Number Reduced More Than Half Is Hopeful Sign That Hot Heads Are Cooling Down.

I send you the following concerning lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research, Monroe N. Work in charge. I find that there were 28 persons lynched in 1923. This is 29 less than the number 57 for the year 1922. Thirteen of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 7 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails.

We also find that there were 46 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Four women, 3 white and 1 colored, were among those thus saved. Six of these preventions of lynchings were in Northern States and 40 in Southern States. In 37 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In the 9 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. In 8 instances during the year persons charged with being connected with lynching mobs were brought to trial. Of the 52 persons thus before the courts only 2 were sent to the penitentiary.

Of the 28 persons lynched in 1923, 26 were Negroes and 2 were whites; two of the former were women. 7 or one-fourth of those put to death were charged with rape or attempted rape; one of the victims was burned to death; one was put to death and then the body was burned. The charge against the one burned to death was murder.

The offenses charged against the whites were: participation in strike depredations, 1; being taken as a Negro, 1. The offenses charged against the Negroes were: murder, 3; murderous assault, 2; rape, 6; attempted rape, 1; killing officer of the law, 2; no charge reported, 3; assisting man charged with rape to escape, 1; resisting posse searching for man charged with rape, 1; cattle stealing 1; "trying to act like white man and not knowing his place", 1; insulting woman, 1; peeping in window, 1; striking man in altercation 1.

The nine states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 2; Florida, 8; Georgia, 4; Louisiana 1; Mississippi 8; Missouri 1; Oklahoma 1; Texas 2; Vrginia 1.

R. R. Moton, Principal.

NASHVILLE, TENN. TENNESSEAN
DECEMBER 29, 1923

The Lynching Record.

The 1923 lynching record compiled by Tuskegee Institute cuts the 1922 record squarely in half. This marks progress. We must push on.

The 28 lynchings for the year were confined to nine states and two of them—Florida and Mississippi with eight each—account for more than half of the whole number. Georgia, for once at least, does not head the column, and Tennessee is conspicuous by her absence from the list.

However, the 1923 record is an indictment against the South alone, as Missouri and Oklahoma, each with one offense, may be fairly included in the Southern States.

And it is the entire South which must bear the stigma of the indictment—the good states with the bad.

Lynchings are a challenge to a state's capacity to enforce the law. Lynchings can be prevented. It has been proven time and again in this state and in neighboring states that where there is a sheriff with the determination to uphold the law and a state government supporting him the mob fails.

If the truth were known, the majority of our lynchings may be traced to one of two causes: Cowardly officials or official sympathy with the mob. Either constitutes a direct repudiation of the oath of office, but in many sections, unfortunately, this repudiation is regarded lightly or not at all.

Taking the figures of 1923 and placing them beside the figures for 1922 it may be said that here is cause for congratulation. In a sense that is true. But in another sense it is a glaring admission of official failure. If we could cut the total of illegal deaths in half, it can be asked with all frankness why we could not prevent lynchings altogether.

Lynching can be stopped. The states must stop it or the federal government will. We do not want federal interference. But we will be powerless to prevent it unless we measure up to the obligations which self-government imposes upon us.

SPRINGFIELD, O. NEWS

From.....

Of..... DEC 29 1923

Date.....

YEAR'S LYNCHING RECORD.

It speaks volumes for the better thought of the nation that the lynching record for the year 1923 shows a marked decline from the record of the preceding year. The proportion is 28 in 1923 as against 57 in 1922. An increase in the number of preventions of lynchings also is impressive. As time goes on, doubtless we shall hear from year to year of a continued reduction in the total number of those who have been victims of lynch-law. In a country so far advanced intellectually as our's, it is perfectly proper to look at this subject from its many angles. The passions of men easily are brought to the blazing point, but we are learning from year to year the advantages which come from sober reflection upon the lessons of the past. Racial feelings which enter into so many instances of lynching, shall have to be tempered by more serious thought upon the desirability of letting the law take its course, and law on the other hand, without respect to the racial sentiments which enter into the situation, shall have to act swiftly and with justice in such cases as may demand less delay than most cases command. The rest of world looks upon this continuation of lynching in America as though we were semi-barbaric in our national life. What we condemn in others we cannot afford to condone among ourselves. The reduction in the number of lynchings in America is due to several causes. One of these is less of crime of the type which generally results in a lynching party, and another cause is the more wide spread disposition to let law take its course in such experiences.

TACOMA, WASH. TRIBUNE
JANUARY 2, 1924

Only 28 Reported in 1923; Were 57 During 1922

TUSKEGEE, Jan. 2.—Lynchings in the United States decreased more than 50 per cent during 1923, as compared with 1922, according to figures made public by the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute. During 1923 there were 28 lynchings as compared with 57 for the preceding year, these figures showed.

Twenty-six of the number were negroes and two were white. Two women were among the victims of mobs.

These figures gave Mississippi and Florida eight lynchings each, Georgia four, Arkansas two, Texas two, Virginia one. Missouri one. Oklahoma one, Louisiana one.

The Tuskegee report says there were 46 instances during the year in which officers of the law prevented lynchings.

DALLAS TEX. NEWS
JANUARY 6, 1924

LYNCHINGS DECREASE IN U. S. OVER 50 PER CENT

By The Associated Press.

TUSKEGEE, Ala., Jan. 5.—Lynchings in the United States decreased more than 50 per cent during 1923, as compared with 1922, according to figures made public by the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute. During 1923 there were twenty-eight lynchings as compared with fifty-seven for the preceding year, these figures showed. Twenty-six of the number were negroes and two were whites. Two women were among the victims of mobs.

These figures gave Mississippi and Florida eight lynchings each Georgia four, Arkansas two, Texas two, Virginia one, Missouri one Oklahoma one and Louisiana one None was reported from North Carolina, South Carolina and Alabama, according to the Tuskegee compilation.

The Tuskegee report says there were forty-six instances during the year in which officers of the law prevented lynchings, forty of these cases being in Southern States, and six in Northern States.

Thirteen of those lynched last year were taken from the hands of the law, the report states, seven from jails and six from officers outside of jails. Seven of the victims were charged with attack or attempted attack, three with murder, two with murderous assault, two for wounding an officer of the law and the rest with other offenses.

PUEBLO, COL., STAR-JOURNAL
JANUARY 1, 1924

LYNCHINGS DROP HALF IN A YEAR

TUSKEGEE, Ala., Jan. 1.—Lynchings in the United States decreased more than 50 per cent during 1923, as compared with 1922, according to figures made public by the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute. During 1923 there were 28 lynchings as compared with 57 for the preceding year, these figures showed. Twenty-six of the number were negroes and two were whites. Two women were among the victims of mobs.

These figures gave Mississippi and Florida eight lynchings each; Georgia four; Arkansas two; Texas two; Virginia one; Missouri one; Oklahoma one; Louisiana one.

The Tuskegee report says there were 46 instances during the year in which officers of the law prevented lynchings.

EMPORIA KS GAZETTE
JANUARY 10, 1924

FEWER LYNCHINGS IN 1923.

From The Topeka Capital:

Tuskegee Institute's annual compilation of lynchings in the United States shows a gratifying falling off for 1923, from 57 to 28, a decline of a little more than half. But there were during the year 46 instances of prevention of attempted lynchings by officers of the law, which accounts in part for the better report.

Lynching, from this analysis, is no less popular through the South, where it is a deep-rooted institution, and but for the diligence and courage of law officers the record would have shown no improvement in 1923. It is a great improvement, however, when police and sheriffs as well as governors begin to show a determined spirit of law enforcement against mobs. Four women were saved from lynching parties during the year and 52 persons were indicted for being identified with lynch mobs. It is a testimony to the better spirit of law officers than the general public, where lynch law prevails, that 50 of these indicted persons were turned loose by juries. But it is a sign of improvement and of better civilized life that of the lynched in 1923 only one was burned at the stake.

During the year lynching occurred in only nine states, which also is an encouraging report, more than half the instances being in Florida and Mississippi, with a record of eight each. The only other states with more than one lynch murder was Georgia, with four, and Texas and Arkansas with two each. The remaining states in which lynchings occurred in the United States, one in each state, were Louisiana, Missouri, Oklahoma and Virginia. There was no instance of lynch law in any northern state in 1923, a clean record that it may be hoped will be maintained in 1924.

Lynchings— 1923
Reports on Sent Press.

Jan. — Dec.

1457

MAYBE WE HAVE LEARNED.

Tuskeegee's lynching report for the past year, 26 victims of the mob, has set all the reflective-minded to thinking on how it could have happened.

It is the best record ever made by the country; so good that we are suspicious of its meaning and the psychologists are giving us their versions of it. Some of them think we have treated the negro badly, that he pulled up stakes and went north, whereupon we ordered our conduct accordingly. The internecine warfare going on within the Ku Klux klan, supposed nemesis of the black, has taken its attention from the negro. And still others wonder if the presence of the klan has not removed much of the necessity for mob law.

Much to our credit, few of us have pretended that we have grown in grace, yet it is not unthinkable that we actually have learned something. We know that lynchings prevent no crimes; they merely acquaint the communities disgraced by them with the ways of the savage. If we have learned any portion of this lesson we probably have contained ourselves when otherwise we had not.

We shall believe that we have learned a little. If we have not, the world about us has, and we are now five years from the international shooting match plus an emotional debauch for several years. Self-control under such conditions was vastly more difficult than today. And we have exercised some of this self containment. Both the whites and the blacks have improved their conduct. They have been on exceptionally good behavior.

Which is something about which a good deal of noise could, with perfect propriety, be made. It is not particularly creditable that it has taken us two generations to see the futility of lynchings, if we have at least seen it in part. The record supports the theory of inward betterment. and that is something.

NEW ORLEANS, LA., Picayune

DEC 27 1923

The "Lynching Record"

The "lynching record" for 1923 as compiled by the Tuskegee Institute, could be cited as a logical argument against a federal anti-lynching law if the advocates of that measure were amenable to any other than political reasoning. For it shows a marked decrease in the total number of lynchings as compared with the preceding year, and an equally marked increase in the efforts made by officers of the law to protect prisoners against "lynching parties" The Tuskegee statistician cites forty-six instances "in which officers of the law prevented lynchings," "armed force" being used in nine of these.

The lynching total for the year, according to the Tuskegee compilation, stands at 28, as compared with 57 in 1922. All are charged against Southern states, the Tuskegee definition being so organized, apparently, as to exclude mob activities practiced in the Northern states and narrowed down to include, with a few exceptions, the putting to death of negroes by mobs. Thus the wholesale "lynching" of white miners at Herrin, Ill., found no place in the Tuskegee record for that year.

Since the proposed federal anti-lynching law apparently is aimed at lynching as defined by Tuskegee, the Tuskegee figures may fairly be cited as evidence that this ponderous legislative weapon is unnecessary. Fewer persons were lynched during the entire year and over the entire country than met violent death at the hands of gunmen and other criminals in a single month—sometimes even in a single city. Condemned by enlightened public opinion that is more widely and more resolutely demanding and supporting preventive action by state and local officers, lynching grows beautifully less, by Tuskegee's own showing. The agitated "statesmen" who demand extra-constitutional action by the federal government against this dying evil might better seek a federal law along the same line to halt the murderous activities of organized gunmen, hi-jackers, etc., if their motive really is the saving of life and the prevention of violent crimes.

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LYNCH TOLL DOWN TO 28 FOR 1923

Agitation for an anti-lynch law and the Northward migration of thousands of colored people are ascribed as the main reasons for a sharp decline in the lynching record for the year 1923.

According to records compiled by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and the Department of Records and Research of Tuskegee Institute, 28 persons were lynched in 1923 as against 57 in 1922. Thirteen of those lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 7 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails.

Two Whites Lynched

Of the 28 persons lynched, 2 are reported to have been whites. Of all persons lynched during the year, one fourth were charged with offenses against women; one of the victims was burned to death, and the body of another was burned after he had been killed. Of the two whites who were lynched, one was charged with being a participant in a strike disorder. The other was lynched when mistaken for a colored man.

Florida and Mississippi led the lynching column with eight each. Georgia followed with 4; Texas and Arkansas lynched two each; Louisiana Missouri and Oklahoma each added one to the quota.

Officers Prevent 46

Police authorities appeared to be more active in suppressing mobs and lawless outbreaks during 1923 than in previous years. In 46 instances lynchings were prevented. Four women, 3 white and one colored were among those saved. Six of the preventions of lynchings occurred in Northern states, while police prevented lynchings 40 times in the Southern localities. In 37 instances prisoners were removed to safer places of confinement or the guards were augmented, or other precautions taken. In 9 other instances, armed forces were used to repel would-be lynchers.

During the year, 52 persons were brought before the courts charged with participating in lynching parties. Only 2 of these, however, were convicted and sentenced to the penitentiary.

FLORIDA, LEADS STATES IN LYNCHINGS

Tuskegee, Ala., Jan. 3.—There were 28 persons lynched in 1923. This is 29 less than the number 57 for the year 1922. Thirteen of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 7 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails.

These are figures of Tuskegee Institute, Department of Records and Research, of which Monroe Work is director.

We also find that there were 46 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Four women, 3 white and 1 colored, were among those thus saved. Six of these preventions were in Northern states and 40 in Southern states. In 37 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In the 9 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. In 8 instances during the year persons charged with being connected with lynching mobs were brought to

trial. Of the 52 persons thus before the courts only 2 were sent to the penitentiary.

Of the 28 persons lynched in 1923 26 were Negroes and 2 were whites; two of the former were women. Seven or one-fourth of those put to death were charged with rape or attempted rape; one of the victims was burned to death; one was put to death and then the body was burned. The charge against the one burned to death was murder.

The offenses charged against the whites were: participation in strike depredations, 1; being taken as a Negro, 1. The offenses charged against the Negroes were: murder, 3; murderous assault, 2; rape, 6; attempted rape, 1; killing officer of the law, 2; wounding officer of the law, 2; no charge reported, 3; assisting man charged with rape to escape, 1; resisting posse searching for man charged with rape, 1; cattle stealing, 1; "trying to act like white man and not knowing his place," 1; insulting woman, 1; peeping in window, 1; striking man in altercation, 1.

The nine states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 2; Florida, 8; Georgia, 4; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 8; Missouri, 1; Oklahoma, 1; Texas, 2; Virginia, 1.

LYNCHING RECORD SHOWS DECREASE

Office of the Principal of Tuskegee Institute, Alabama.

December 31, 1923

Dear Sir:

I send you the following concerning lynchings for the last year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research, Monroe N. Work in charge. I find that there were 28 persons lynched in in 1923. This is 29 less than the number 57 for the year 1922. Thirteen of these persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 7 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails.

We also find that there were 46 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Four women, 3 white and one colored, were among those thus saved. Six of these preventions of lynchings were in Northern States and 40 in Southern States. In 37 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards argumented or other precautions taken. In the 9 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. In 8 instances during the year persons charged with being connected with lynching mobs were brought to trial. Of the 52 persons thus before the courts only 2 were sent to the penitentiary.

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The nine states in which lynchings occured and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 2; Florida, 8; Georgia, 4; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 8; Missouri, 1; Oklahoma, 1; Texas, 2; Virginia, 1.

Yours very truly,
R. R. MOTON, Principal.

THE LYNCHING RECORD FOR 1923.

Tuskegee Institute, Ala.
December 31, 1923.

Editor—

I send you the following concerning lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research, Monroe N. Work in charge. I find that there were 28 persons lynched in 1923. This is 29 less than the number 57 for the year 1922. Thirteen of the persons lynched were taken from th hands of the law, 7 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails.

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The nine states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 2; Florida, 8; Georgia, 4; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 8; Missouri, 1; Oklahoma, 1; Texas, 2; Virginia, 1.

Yours very truly
R. R. MOTON,
Principal.

FROM

JAN 1924

LYNCHINGS DECREASE.

The report of the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute in regard to the number of lynchings during the last twelve months is most encouraging. During 1923 there were 28 lynchings as compared with 57 for the preceding year.

Lynch law has always prevailed more or less in every country in times of great popular excitement and especially in newly-settled territories, where the power of the civil government is not fully established or does not keep pace with the advance of the outposts of civilization. Thus, in 1768 we find the terms "regulating," "regulation" and "regulator" in use in the Carolinas, where illegal whippings were inflicted by the Regulators. There were similar Regulators along the western frontier in the early days, where lynch law was perfectly well known. In fact, it was the only law effective to restrain the lawlessness of certain elements.

It should be observed, however, that lynch law for "regulation" of sparsely settled territories or for times of great popular excitement is not precisely the same as the lynch law as we know it in the United States today. It was at first not mob law, as now understood, but more like an improvised, extra-legal organization of citizens to provide justice because of the lack of legal justice. Circumstances virtually necessitated punishment of offenders in this way; otherwise, they would not have been punished at all and would have been free to give expression to lawless intent.

Lynch law, as we know it today, is totally different, with probably very few, if any exceptions. During the Civil War and afterward lynching was practiced in the Southern States, instigated, as is generally believed, by the Ku Klux Klan. It is said that from 1870 it became an unwritten law in the South to lynch by mob rule every negro charged with rape or assault, or with the murder of a white person.

It is quite evident, therefore, that lynch law can be both desirable and terribly detestable. In any case it is dangerous practice. In the South it has become a blot on the integrity of the states, because it is not required for justice and is often hastened by prejudice. There is not one of the Southern States today that has not an orderly government and well organized judicial system. Every person accused of crime therefore should have a fair trial. Lynch law defeats that inalienable right of the citizen. Consequently lynching has been vigorously and justly denounced not only in the North but also in the South.

Fortunately, the year just passed has witnessed a notable improvement in the situation. A fifty per cent. decrease in yearly lynchings is something for commendation. The South only suffers in reputation by this form of lawlessness. It should therefore continue to exert its influence to avert mob law and expedite the orderly progress of legal justice.

LESS than half as many men were lynched in this land of freedom in 1923 as in 1922. Tuskegee Institute reports that 46 lynchings were prevented last year by officers of the law. This is an encouraging record. James Weldon Johnson of the National Association for the Advancement of the Colored People attributes the change to the northward migration of hundreds of thousands of Negroes and to the fear of federal intervention inspired in the South by the Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill. Doubtless the growing desire for better inter-racial relations in the South has its roots in these movements, but there is still work to be done. Even twenty-six violent deaths suffered for such crimes as "mistaken identity, aiding in escape, associating with white women, being in an automobile accident, remaining in a town where Negroes were not wanted, and frightening white children by walking on a country road" make an irreparable blot upon any country. And every year in the smaller villages of the South some of these bestial things go unrecorded. In this year of Klan activity fear probably kept many such crimes hidden. Mr. Dyer's job is not done yet.

Lynchings—1923.
Reports on. Sent Press.

Jan. —Dec.

1458

St. Joseph, Mich., Herald-Press
Monday, Jan. 7, 1924

GETTING CIVILIZED

The United States of America appears to be on the road towards civilization. There has been an actual improvement in our lynching records during the past year.

According to the figures compiled by Tuskegee Institute only 28 persons were lynched in 1923, as against 57 in 1922. If we could maintain the same progress there wouldn't be any mob killings, but this is too much to hope.

All of the lynchings mentioned occurred in southern states. Up north here we don't get so excited over the same crimes, or alleged crimes, that bother the south and call for speedy action. If a person is murdered or assaulted, the north allows the law to take its course, as is right and proper, but is inclined to go still farther and lament any lack of leniency towards the guilty. Up north we sob over the criminals. Down south they hang them if they can get their hands on the violators, that is if the latter are negroes.

However, it was not altogether the fault of southerners they failed to lynch more. Officers prevented lynchings in 46 cases, six of which were in the north. Of those lynched, 26 were negroes, two of whom were women. The offenses charged included three of murder, and others were assault and lesser crimes, such as imitating a white man and peeping in a window.

Our lynching records continue a black mark on the escutcheon of America. They show that mobs have not advanced beyond the primeval stages; that they are still governed by passion, and that once aroused only force can control them. Mankind in a group does not think and act the same as in the individual. As an unorganized mass it is worse, as organized society it is better.

Law Enforcement Checks Lynching Says Tuskegee

Tuskegee, Ala.—According to records compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research, Monroe N. Work in charge there were 28 persons lynched in 1923. This is 29 less than the number 57 for the year 1922. Thirteen of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 7 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails.

There were 46 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Four women, 3 white and 1 colored, were among those thus saved. Six of these preventions of lynchings were in Northern States and 40 in Southern States. In 37 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In the 9 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. In 8 instances during the year persons charged with being connected with lynching mobs were brought to trial. Of the 52 persons thus before the courts only 2 were sent to the penitentiary.

Of the 28 persons lynched in 1923, 26 were Negroes and 2 were whites; two of the fromer were women. 7 or one fourth of those put to death were charged with rape or attempted rape; one of the victims was burned to death; one was put to death and then the body was burned. The charge against the one burned to death was murder. 1-5-24

The offenses charged against the whites were: participation in strike depredations, 1; being taken a sa Negro, 1. The offenses charged against the Negroes were: murder, 3; murderous assault, 2; rape, 6; attempted rape, 1; killing officer of the law, 2; wounding officer of the law, 3; no charge reported, 3; assisting man charged with rape to escape, 1; resisting posse searching for man charged with rape, 1; cattle stealing, 1; "trying to act like white man and not knowing his place," 1; insulting woman, 1; peeping in window, 1; striking man in altercation 1.

The nine states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas 2; Florida 8; Georgia 4; Louisiana 1; Mississippi 8; Missouri 1; Oklahoma 1; Texas 2; Virginia 1.

LYNCHINGS IN U. S. DROP 50 PER CENT

HOUSTON TEX. POST
JANUARY 2, 1924

Associated Press Report.

TUSKEGEE, Ala., Jan 1.—Lynchings in the United States decreased more than 50 per cent during 1923, as compared with 1922, according to figures made public by the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial institute. During 1923, there were 28 lynchings as compared with 57 for the preceding year, these figpres showed. Twenty-six of the number were negroes and two were whites. Two women were among the victims of mobs.

These figures gave Mississippi and Florida eight lynchings each, Georgia four, Arkansas two, Texas two, Virgina one, Missouri one, Oklahoma one, Louisiana one. None was reported from North Carolina, South Carolina and Alabama, according to the Tuskegee compilation.

SANTA CRUZ, CAL.
NEWS
JANUARY 3, 1924

Some Figures On Lynching

Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute, founded by Booker T. Washington, office of the principal, Tuskegee Institute, Alabama, December 25, 1923.

To the Editor of The News. Sir: I send you the following concerning lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Departments of Records and Research, Monroe N. Work in charge. I find that there were 28 persons lynched in 1923. This is 29 less than the number 57 for the year 1922. Thirteen of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 7 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails.

We also find that there were 46 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Four women, 3 white and 1 colored, were among those thus saved. Six of these preventions of lynchings were in northern states and 40 in southern states. In 37 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In the 9 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. In 8 instances during the year persons charged with being connected with lynching mobs were brought to trial. Of the 52 persons thus before the courts only 2 were sent to the penitentiary.

Of the 28 persons lynched in 1923, 26 were negroes and 2 were whites; two of the former were women. Seven or one-fourth of those put to death were charged with rape or attempted rape; one of the victims was burned to death; one was put to death and then the body was burned. The charge against the one burned to death was murder.

The offenses charged against the whites were: Participation in strike depredations, 1; being taken as a negro, 1. The offenses charged against the negroes were: Murder, 3; murderous assault, 2; rape, 6; attempted rape, 1; killing officer of the law, 2; wounding officer of the law, 2; no charge reported, 3; assisting man charged with rape to escape, 1; resisting posse searching for man charged with rape, 1; cattle stealing, 1; "trying to act like white man and not knowing his place," 1; insulting woman, 1; peeping in window, 1; striking man in altercation, 1.

The nine states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 2; Florida, 8; Georgia, 4; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 8; Missouri, 1; Oklahoma, 1; Texas, 2; Virginia, 1.

Yours very truly,
R. R. MOTON,
Principal.

FROM New Orleans Item
DEC 31 1923

LYNCHINGS CUT IN HALF IN 1923

R. R. Moton, principaal of Tuskegee Institute, Alabama, makes public the following information regarding lynchings for the past year, as compiled by Tuskegee Institute, in the department of records and research, Monroe N. Work in charge:

I find that there were 28 persons lynched in 1923. This is 29 less than the number 57 for the year 1922. Thirteen of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 7 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails.

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The nine states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 2; Florida, 8; Georgia, 4; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 8; Missouri, 1; Oklahoma, 1; Texas, 2; Virginia, 1.

FROM Herald Tribune
JAN 1924

LYNCHINGS FALL OFF 50 P. C. IN YEAR

Tuskegee, Ala., Jan. 2.—Lynchings in the United States decreased more than fifty per cent. during 1923, as compared with 1922, according to figures made public by the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute.

During 1923 there were 28 lynchings as compared with 57 for the preceding year, these figures showed. Twenty-six of the number were negroes and two were whites. Two women were among the victims of mobs.

These figures gave Mississippi and Florida eight lynchings each, Georgia four, Arkansas two, Texas two, Virginia one, Missouri one, Oklahoma one, Louisiana, one. None was reported from North Carolina, South Carolina and Alabama, according to the Tuskegee compilation.

The Tuskegee report says there were forty-six instances during the year in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Forty of these cases being in Southern states and six in Northern states.

Thirteen of those lynched last year were taken from the lands of the law, the report states, seven from jails and six from officers outside of jails. Seven of the victims were charged with attack or attempted attack three with murder, two with murderous assault, two for wounding an officer of the law, and the rest with other offenses.

NEWARK, O. ADVOCATE

JAN 1 - 1924

28 LYNCHINGS IN LAST YEAR

Tuskegee Institute Gives the Summary of Mob Law Crimes for 1923.

Records compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the department of records and research, Monroe N. Work in charge, reveal that here were 28 persons lynched in 1923. This is 29 less than the number 57 for the year 1922. Thirteen of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, seven from jails, six from officers of the law outside of jails.

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Of the 28 persons lynched in 1923, 26 were negroes and two were whites; two of the former were women. Seven, or one-fourth of those put to death were charged with crimes against women; one of the victims was burned to death; one was put to death and then the body was burned. The charge against the one burned to death was murder.

The offenses charged against the whites were: participation in strike depredations, one; being taken as a negro, one. The offenses charged against the negroes were: murder three; murderous assault, two; criminal assault, six; attempted criminal assault, one; killing officer of the law, two; wounding officer of the law, two; no charge reported, three; assisting man charged with criminal assault to escape, one; resisting posse searching for man charged with criminal assault, one; cattle stealing, one; "trying to act like white man and not knowing his place," one; insulting woman, one; peeping in window, one; striking man in altercation, one.

The nine states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state as as follows: Arkansas, two; Florida, six; Georgia, four; Louisiana 1; Mississippi, eight; Missouri, 1; Oklahoma, one; Texas, two; Virginia, 1.

Yours very truly,
R. R. MOTON, Principal.

LOS ANGELS CAL TIMES
JANUARY 2, 1924

LYNCHING DECREASES

Twenty-Eight Persons Killed by Mobs During 1923

[BY A. P. NIGHT WIRE]

TUSKEGEE (Ala.) Jan. 1. Lynchings in the United States decreased more than 50 per cent during 1923, as compared with 1922, according to figures made public by the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute. During 1923 there were twenty-eight lynchings as compared with fifty-seven for the preceding year, these figures showed. Twenty-six of the number were negroes and two were whites. Two women were among the victims of mobs.

These figures gave Mississippi and Florida eight lynchings each; Georgia, four; Arkansas two; Texas, two; Virginia, one; Missouri, one; Oklahoma, one; Louisiana, one.

The Tuskegee report says there were forty-six instances during the year in which officers of the law prevented lynchings.

Charleston, S. C., News & Courier

JAN 2 - 1924

SOUTH CAROLINA'S LYNCHING RECORD

CLEAN DURING 1923

Last One Recorded January 1, 1922, in Aiken County, Statistics Show

(By WILLIAM BANKS.)

Columbia, Jan. 1.—Special: The year 1923 has passed, up to this writing, without a lynching recorded in South Carolina. This probably breaks all records since "the quick court of justice" came into being subsequent to the War of Secession. One year, during the administration of Governor Manning, there was no lynching, but the records of semi-official importance kept at Tuskeegee, Ala., showed that there was one case in York County. That was not really a lynching. A negro preacher, who had been uttering unpatriotic statements, was whipped by a mixed company, whites and blacks, and subsequently died from exposure. But it was not the intention of the mob, as now recalled, to put this man to death.

There was nothing in the State last year even in the nature of a lynching. No mob got to a prisoner with intent to harm. There were several gestures made, and some of these were serious, but the sheriffs got thir prisoners away from the crowds. Two of these attempts were made in Anderson County. One of the accused in those efforts was brought to justice, convicted and paid the penalty in the death chair. He murdered a farmer with the use of a hoe.

Two other negroes accused of murder and arson in Beaufort County were brought to the penitentiary, were convicted and died in the death chair. The promptness of convictions and the sureness of punishment, no doubt, has had its effect upon the minds of the mass of the people. Although, as a matter of fact, the crime for which lynching was supposed at one time to be the antidote seems to be of exceedingly rare occurrence these days.

Alarmists, just after the World War, said that a certain element would be hard to handle after experience with white women of loose conduct in Paris and Nice and other continental cities. In one or two cities in the State there had to be a show-down, and since then there has never been better feeling between the races. There seems to be an intention on the part of the white people to see that the negroes get justice in the courts. Their educational facilities are being improved, their home surroundings bettered; in fact, there are at least one or two judges in this State who will give a white man a greater sentence for a given offense than a negro accused of the same offense, for the philosophy is that the white man, with better opportunities and with pride of race, should be a better citizen.

High Point, N. C. Enterprise

JAN 1 - 1924

WHAT CUT FIGURES

Each New Year's day Tuskegee Institute, which for years has kept a record, advises the press as to the lynching score of the past twelve months. In the United States in 1923, 28 lynchings occurred, a decrease of more than 50 per cent from 1922.

The report likewise asserts that 40 lynchings that were threatened in the southern states were prevented by the action of the officers.

That is the essence of the story. Instances in the south of lynching committed by men of character and of quality unquestionably occur, but the great majority of these mob outbreaks are the work of an element dangerously lawless generally, in all probability.

Many of the crimes of the mob have resulted from the easy access to the prisoners furnished by cowardly or indifferent officers. The disposition of southern officeholders to do what Governor Morrison did in the Nash county and Spruce Pine cases—get soldiers to the point of threatened disorder in sufficient number before the lynching takes place—is reducing and will continue to reduce the figures.

The southern states will continue indefinitely to do that which they always have done—require that criminals of certain classes be executed when convicted. The courts display no desire whatsoever to be less strict in the application of this law of the land. The lyncher stigmatizes the state and frequently commits perhaps the most deplorable of all crimes—punishment in the extreme of the wrong man.

Only when the law and the administrators of it fail through inefficiency or corruption is there any excuse for direct action of the community.

From Herald
Kilgore, Tex.
Date 1-4-24

Only 28 Lynchings In United States Past Year

Record Shows A Big Decline From Number Recorded In The Year 1922.

Tuskegee, Ala., Jan. 1.—Lynchings in the United States decreased more than 50 per cent during 1923 as compared with 1922, according to figures made public by the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial institute. During 1923 there were 28 lynchings as compared with 57 for the preceeding year, these figures showed. Twenty-six of the number were negroes and two were whites. Two women were among the victims of the mobs.

These figures gave Mississippi and Florida eight lynching each, Arkansas two, Georgia four, Texas two, Virginia one, Missouri one, Oklahoma one, Louisiana one. None was reported from North Carolina, South Carolina and Alabama, according to Tuskegee compilation.

The Tuskegee report says there were 46 instances during the year in which officers of the law prevented lynchings, 40 of these cases being in southern states and six in northern states.

Thirteen of those lynched were taken from the hands of the law, the report states, seven from jails and six from officers outside of jails. Seven of the victims were charged with attack or attempted attack, three with murder, two with murderous assault, two for wounding an officer of the law, and the rest with other offenses.

Lynchings—1923.
6 Reports on. Sent Press,

Jan.—Dec.

1459

CLARKSVILLE, TENN., Chronicle
Tuesday, Jan. 1, 1924

1923 LYNCHING HALF OF 1922

ONLY 28 THIS YEAR COMPARED WITH 57 IN PAST YEAR, NONE IN TENNESSEE.

By Associated Press.

Tuskegee, Ala., Jan. 1.—Lynching in the United States decreased more than fifty per cent during 1923, with 28, compared with 1922 with 57, according to figures made public by the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute. Twenty-six of the victims were Negroes and two were Whites.

Figures gave Mississippi eight, Arkansas two and Louisiana 1.

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These figures gave Mississippi and Alabama eight lynchings each, Georgia four, Arkansas two, Texas two, Virginia one, Missouri one, Oklahoma one Louisiana one. None was reported from North Carolina and South Carolina, according to the Tuskegee compilation.

The Tuskegee report says there were forty-six instances during the year in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Forty of these cases were in southern states and six in northern states.

Thirteen of those lynched last year were taken from the hands of the authorities, the report states, seven from jails and six from officers outside jails. Seven of the victims were charged with attack or attempted attack, three with murder, two with murderous assault two for wounding an officer of the law and the rest with other offenses.

Hickory, N. C. Daily Record
DEC 27 1923

The Tuskegee Institute of Alabam has sent out information for releas January 1 on the lynching record fo the closing year. Here is a wager o a good cigar that a well known soci ety in New York, which likes nothin better than breaking into newspapers will procure a copy of the letter an give it to the Associated Press a if it had worked up the information That was the [illegible] year.

NASHVILLE TENN. TENNESSEAN
Wednesday, Jan. 2, 1924

LYNCHINGS IN U. S. CUT BY 50 PER CENT IN YEAR

Twenty-Eight Victims of Mobs in 1923, Compared With 57 in 1922.

(By Associated Press)

Tuskegee, Ala., Jan. 1—Lynchings in the United States decreased more than 50 per cent during 1923, as compared with 1922, according to figures made public by the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute.

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JAMESTOWN JOURNAL
Wednesday, January 2, 1924

STATISTICS ON LYNCHING IN U. S.

Decrease of More Than 50 Per Cent In 1923 As Compared With 1922, Says Tuskegee Normal stitute.

Tuskegee, Ala., Jan. 2.—Lynching in the United States decreased more than 50 per cent during 1923 as compared with 1922, according to figures made public by the Tuskegee Normal Industrial Institute. During 1923 there were 28 lynchings as compared with 57 for [illegible] preceding year, these figures showed twenty-six of the number were

LOUISVILLE, KY., TIMES
Thursday, Jan. 3, 1924

The Tuskegee report on lynchings in 1923 conveys the information that one negro was lynched for trying to act like a white man. Well, when you bear in mind how some white men act you'll admit that the provocation may have been overmuch.

Rock Hill S. C. Herald
JAN 1 - 1924

DECREASE IN LYNCHING IS MORE THAN FIFTY PER CENT

Only 28 Victims Mob Rule in 1923, as Compared to 57 Previous Year; None in the Carolinas; Two Women Among Victims of Mobs, According to Tuskegee Compilation.

By the Associated Press.

Tuskegee, Ala., Jan. 1.—Lynching in the United States decreased more than 50 per cent. during 1923 as compared to 1922, according to figures made public today by Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute here.

During 1923 there were 28 lynchings, as compared to 57 in 1922, the figures showed. Of this number 26 were negroes and two were whites. Two women were among the mob victims.

The figures show that Mississippi and Florida each had eight lynchings, Georgia four, Arkansas two, Texas two, Virginia, Missouri, Oklahoma and Louisiana one each. None were reported in North Carolina, South Carolina and Alabama, according to the compilation.

The Tuskegee report says that there were 46 instances where officers of the law prevented lynchings during the year, 40 of the cases being in southern states and six in northern states.

Thirteen of those lynched were taken from the hands of the law, the report stated, seven being taken from jails and six from officers outside the jails. Seven of the victims were accused of an attack or attempted assault, three with murder, two murderous assaut, two with wounding officers and the rest for other offenses.

We also find that there were 46 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Four women, 3 white and 1 colored, were among those thus saved. Six of these preventions of lynchings were in Northern States and 40 in Southern States. In 37 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In the 9 others instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. In 8 instances during the year persons charged with being connected with lynching mobs were brought to trial. Of the 52 persons thus before the courts only 2 were sent to the penitentiary.

Race of Victims.

Of the 28 persons lynched in 1923, 26 were Negroes and 2 were whites; two of the former were women. 7 or one fourth of those put to death were charged with rape or attempted rape; one of the victims was burned to death; one was put to death and then the body was burned. The charge against the one burned to death was murder.

The offenses charged against the whites were: participation in strike depredations, 1; being taken as a Negro, 1. The offenses charged against the Negroes were: murder, 3; murderous assaut, 2; rape, 6; attempted rape, 1; killing officer of the law, 2; wounding officer of the law, 2; no charge reported, 3; assisting man charged with rape to escape, 1; resisting posse searching for man charged with rape, 1; cattle stealing, 1; trying to act like white man and not knowing his place," 1; insulting woman, 1; peeping in window, 1; striking man in altercation 1.

The nine states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows; Arkansas, 2; Florida, 8; Georgia, 4; Louisiana 1; Mississippi, 8; Missouri, 1; Oklahoma. 1; Texas, 2; Virginia, 1.

ANDERSON IND HERALD
TUESDAY, JANUARY 1, 1924

LESS LYNCHINGS IN 1923 THAN IN 1922

Twenty-Eight Colored and Two White Men Victims During Year.

TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE, Ala., December 31.—The following data concerning lynchings for the past year was compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research, Monroe N. Work in charge. There were 28 persons lynched in 1923. This is 29 less than the number 57 for the year 1922. Thirteen persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 7 from jails and

TRENTON N J TIMES
JANUARY 1, 1924

LYNCHINGS REDUCED

TUSKEGEE, Ala., Jan. 1.—According to the figures compiled by Tuskegee Institute twenty-eight persons were lynched in 1923, twenty-nine less than in 1922. Thirteen of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, seven from jails and six from officers outside of jails.

DECATUR ILL HER
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 2, 1924

LYNCHINGS DROP DURING YEAR PAST

(By Associated Press.)

TUSKOGEE, Ala., Jan. 1—Lynchings in the United States decreased more than 50 per cent during 1923 as compared with 1922 according to figures made public by the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute. During 1923 there were 28 lynchings as compared with 570 pre

...RMINGHAM, ALA., NEWS

JAN 1 - 1924

LYNCHINGS IN 1923 NUMBER ONLY 28, TUSKEGEE REPORTS

Decrease From 1922 Is More Than Half; Alabama Has Clean Record.

TUSKEGEE, Ala., Jan. 1.—Special.—The number of persons lynched in the United States during 1923 was less than half of those lynched in 1922, according to the annual report of figures compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the department of records and research, of which Monroe N. Work is in charge.

Alabama reported no lynchings.

The number reported from other states is 28. In 1922, there were 57 lynchings, or 29 more than in the year just past.

Thirteen of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 7 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails.

There were 46 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Four women, three white and one colored, were among those thus saved. Six of these preventions of lynchings were in Northern states and 40 in Southern states. In 37 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In the nine other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. In eight instances during the year persons charged with being connected with lynching mobs were brought to trial. Of the 52 persons thus before the courts only two were sent to the penitentiary.

Of the 28 persons lynched in 1923, 26 were negroes and two were whites; two of the former were women. Seven or one-fourth of those put to death were charged with rape or attempted rape; one of the victims was burned to death; one was put to death and then the body was burned. The charge against the one burned to death was murder.

The offenses charged against the whites were: Participation in strike depredations, one; being taken as a negro, one. The offenses charged against the negroes were: murder, three; murderous assault, two; rape, six; attempted rape, one; killing officer of the law, two; wounding officer of the law, two; no charge reported, three; assisting man charged with rape to escape, one; resisting posse searching for man charged with rape, one; cattle stealing, one; "trying to act like white man and not knowing his place," one; insulting woman, one; peeping in window, one; striking man in altercation, one.

The nine states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, two; Florida, eight; Georgia, four; Louisiana, one; Mississippi, eight; Missouri, one; Oklahoma, one; Texas, two; Virginia, one.

Nashville Banner

MEMPHIS, TENN.

Tuesday, Jan. 1, 1924

FIFTY PER CENT FEWER LYNCHINGS

Tuskegee, Ala., Jan. 1.—(By Associated Press.)—Lynchings in the United States decreased more than fifty per cent during 1923, as compared with 1922, according to figures made public by the Tuskegee normal and industrial institute. During 1923 there were 28 lynchings, as compared with 57 for the preceding year, these figures showed. Twenty-six of this number were negroes and two were whites. Two women were among the victims of mobs.

These figures gave Mississippi and Florida 8 lynchings each, Georgia 4, Arkansas 2, Texas 2, Virginia 1, Missouri 1, Oklahoma 1, Louisiana 1. None was reported from North Carolina, South Carolina and Alabama, according to the Tuskegee compilation.

The Tuskegee report says there were forty-six instances during the year in which officers of the law prevented lynchings, forty of these cases being in Southern states and six in northern states.

Thirteen of those lynched last year were taken from the hands of the law, the report statse, seven from jails and six from officers outside of jails. Seven of the victims were charged with attack or attempted attack, three with murder, two with murderous assault, two for wounding an officer of the law, and the rest for various other offenses.

STOCKTON, CAL., RECORD

JANUARY 1, 1924

U. S. LYNCHINGS SHOW DECREASE

TUSKEGEE, Ala., Jan. 1.—Lynchings in the United States decreased more than 50 per cent during 1923 as compared with 1922 according to figures made public by the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute. During 1923 there were twenty-eight lynchings as compared with fifty-seven for the preceding year, these figures showed. Twenty-six of the number were negroes and two were whites. Two women were among the victims of mobs.

DAVENPORT, IOWA, TIMES

TUESDAY, JANUARY 1, 1924.

...ew Fewer Lynchings In U. S. in Past Year

[Associated Press Leased Wire]

TUSKEGEE, Ala., Jan. 1.—Lynchings in the United States decreased more than 50 per cent during 1923 as compared with 1922 according to figures made public by the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute.

During 1923 there were 28 lynchings as compared with 57 the preceding year, these figures showed. Twenty-six were negroes and two were whites. Two women were included.

TOPEKA, KS. CAPITAL

JANUARY 3, 1924

FEWER LYNCHINGS IN 1923

Tuskegee Institute's annual compilation of lynchings in the United States shows a gratifying falling off for 1923, from 57 to 28, a decline of a little more than half. But there were during the year 46 instances of prevention of attempted lynchings by officers of the law, which accounts in part for the better report.

Lynching, from this analysis, is no less popular thru the South, where it is a deep-rooted institution, and but for the diligence and courage of law officers the record would have shown no improvement in 1923. It is a great improvement, however, when police and sheriffs as well as Governors begin to show a determined spirit of law enforcement against mobs. Four women were saved from lynching parties during the year and 52 persons were indicted for being identified with lynch mobs. It is a testimony to the better spirit of law officers than the general public, where lynch law prevails, that 50 of these indicted persons were turned loose by juries. But it is a sign of improvement and of better civilized life that of the lynched in 1923 only one was burned at the stake.

During the year lynching occurred in but nine states, which is also an encouraging report, more than half the instances being in Florida and Mississippi, with a record of eight each. The only other states with more than one lynch murder were Georgia, with four, and Texas and Arkansas with two each. The remaining states in which lynchings occurred in the United States, one in each state, were Louisiana, Missouri, Oklahoma and Virginia. There was no instance of lynch law in any Northern state in 1923, a clean record that it may be hoped will be maintained in 1924.

New Orleans States

DEC 26 1923

Fewer Lynchings.

A report from the Association for the Advancement of Colored People has one very encouraging feature, as it shows that the number of lynchings, which in 1922 was 61, has declined to 26 so far this year. Only seven out of the 26 lynched persons were charged with assault upon women.

Two main causes are given for the reduction of lynchings. One of these is the agitation of the passage of an anti-lynching law through Congress; and the other is the somewhat extensive migration of negroes to the North.

But there is still another reason, and doubtless the strongest one of all. The crime of assault and attack upon women has not been as frequent as in the past.

MATTOON, ILL., JOURNAL-GAZETTE

Wednesday, Jan. 2 1924

LYNCHINGS DECREASE DURING THE YEAR 192...

Tuskegee, Ala., Jan. 2—Lynching in the United States decreased more than 50 per cent during 1923 as compared with 1922 according to figures made public by the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute. During 1923 there were 280 lynchings as compared with 370 preceding year.

TAMPA, FLA., TIMES

TUESDAY, JANUARY 1, 1924

Lynchings in U. S. Decrease 50 Percent

Tuskegee, Ala., Jan. 1.—Lynchings in the United States decreased more than 150 per cent in 1923 as compared with 1922 according to figures issued by the Tuskegee normal and industrial institute today. During 1923 there were 28 lynchings as compared to 57 the preceding year these figures showed. Twenty-six of the number were negroes and two whites. Two woman were among the victims of the mobs.

These figures gave Mississippi and Florida eight lynchings each, Georgia, four; Arkansas and Texas, two each; Virginia, one; Missouri, one; Oklahoma, one; Louisiana, one. None were reported from North Carolina, South Carolina or Alabama, according to the Tuskegee compilation.

The Tuskegee report showed there were 46 instances during the year in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Forty of these cases were in southern states and six in northern states.

Thirteen of those lynched last year were taken from the hands of the law, the report stated, seven from jails and six from officers outside of jails. Seven of the victims were charged with attack or attempted attack, three with murder, two with murderous assault, two with wounding an officer of the law, and the rest with other offenses.

...cerning lynchings for the last year, as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the department of records and research, Monroe N. Work in charge. I find that there were 28 persons lynched in 1923. This is 29 less than the number (57) for the year 1922. Thirteen of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law—7 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails.

We also find that there were 46 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Four women—3 white and 1 colored—were among those thus saved. Six of these preventions of lynchings were in Northern states and 40 in Southern states. In 37 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In the 9 other instances armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. In 8 instances during the year persons charged with being connected with lynching mobs were brought to trial. Of the 52 persons thus before the courts only 2 were sent to the penitentiary.

Of the 28 persons lynched in 1923 26 were negroes and 2 were whites; two of the former were women. Seven, or one-fourth, of those put to death were charged with rape or attempted rape. One of the victims was burned to death; one was put to death and then the body was burned. The charge against the one burned to death was murder.

The nine states in which lynching occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 2; Florida 8; Georgia, 4; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 8; Missouri, 1; Oklahoma, 1; Texas, 2; Virginia, 1.

R. R. MOTON,
Principal Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute.

Tuskegee Institute, Ala., Dec. 31, 1923

Tribune

NEW YORK CITY

JAN 2 1924

Lynchings of 1923

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: I send you the following con...

BLOOMINGTON, ILL., BULLETIN

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 2, 1924

LYNCHINGS IN U. S. DECREASED BY HALF

TUSKEGEE, Ala., Jan. 2.—Lynchings in the United States decreased more than fifty per cent during 1923 as compared with 1922 according to figures made public by the Tuskgee Normal and Industrial institute. During 1923 there were twenty-eight lynchings as compared with fifty-seven the preceding year, these figures showed. Twenty-six were negroes and two were whites. Two women were included.

Lynchings — 1923.
Reports on, Sent Press. 1460

Jan. — Dec.

1460

Times
NEW YORK CITY
JAN 1 1924

Lynchings

Principal R. R. Moton of the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute reports as follows on the year's crime and disaster as compiled by Monroe N. Work of the Department of Records of the Institute:

"I find that there were twenty-eight persons lynched in 1923. This is twenty-nine less than the number fifty-seven for the year 1922. Thirteen of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, seven from jails and six from officers of the law outside of jails.

"We also found that there were forty-six instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Four women, three white and one colored, were among those thus saved. Six of these preventions of lynchings were in Northern States and forty in Southern States. In thirty-seven of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In the nine other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. In eight instances during the year persons charged with being connected with lynching mobs were brought to trial. Of the fifty-two persons thus before the courts only two were sent to the penitentiary.

"Of the twenty-eight persons lynched in 1923, twenty-six were negroes and two were whites; two of the former were women. Seven, or one-fourth of those put to death, were charged with rape or attempted rape; one of the victims was burned to death; one was put to death and then the body was burned. The charge against the one burned to death was murder.

"The offenses charged against the whites were: participation in strike depredations, 1; being taken as a negro, 1. The offenses charged against the negroes were: murder, 3; murderous assault, 2; rape, 6; attempted rape, 1; killing officer of the law, 2; wounding officer of the law, 2; no charge reported, 3; assisting man charged with rape to escape, 1; resisting posse searching for man charged with rape, 1; cattle stealing, 1; "trying to act like white man and not knowing his place," 1; insulting woman, 1; peeping in window, 1; striking man in altercation, 1.

"The nine states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 2; Florida, 8; Georgia, 4; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 8; Missouri, 1; Oklahoma, 1; Texas, 2; Virginia, 1."

From Dispatch
San Antonio Express
Date 1-1-24

HOW BLOODY THE "BANNER"!

"This has been a banner year in the lynching record!" exclaimed a speaker before a National convention of negroes the other day.

Indeed? Then the "banner" is bloody and bedraggled, drooping and dolorous and dirty—and shot full of holes.

This morning, the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute's Department of Records and Research accounts for 28 lynchings in 1923—which "is 29 less than the number (57) for the year 1922."

Wonderful!—better than halved!—but alas! since Tuskegee closed that compilation a few days ago, two or three lynchings have been added to the 1923 record. As usual, mob murderers in Florida and in Oklahoma have been on the job. And thereby hangs a tale:

Nineteen hundred and seventeen was a "banner" year for lynchings, too; "only" 38 were recorded, as against 54 in the preceding year, and 69 in 1915. Was wartime patriotism acting as a deterrent; was, not the negroes' exodus to northern industrial centers, but their presence in the Army, the Navy, the shipyards, leashing the lynch-mob?

Hardly; for the next year, 1918—in the very heat of our soldiers' battling overseas, meeting the crisis—there were 64 lynchings, and 83 in 1919, and 61 in 1920, and 63 in 1921—and President Wilson meanwhile had begged the Nation to cease giving itself a "Prussian" record in this regard!

* * *

During the past summer, sundry newspaper editors and politicians over the lynching belt indignantly denied that the negroes' wholesale removal to northern and eastern employments was ascribable to the lynching custom or to Ku Klux Klan hatred and intimidation—either or both. Solely the allurements—the false promises of financial, social and creature advantages and comforts—which the "Yankee" employment agents held out, they insisted, moved the negroes hence. Well—there are the comparative figures as to the effect, at any rate, even if they have no bearing on the cause:

Some thirty lynchings in 1923—the year of the record-breaking migration, and also the record-low year of mob murders—as against 57 lynchings in 1922.

The man in the street easily may draw his own conclusion. Is it possible that the pocketbook nerve could turn the trick where the "patriotism" nerve had been tweaked in vain—and by no less a person than the President—and discourage lynchings, from Georgia to Oklahoma?

Howbeit, here is one phase of the 1923 record which is anything but "banner"—anything but encouraging, anything but a strong argument for Southern Senators and Representatives when they again raise their voices against the Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill, in Congress:

"In eight instances during the year, persons charged with being connected with lynching mobs were brought to trial. Of the 52 persons thus before the courts, only two were sent to the penitentiary."

* * *

Obviously, San Antonio Express would be the last to discount either the admirable merit behind, or the stanch effect of, the fact that 40 of the 46 instances in which law-officers prevented lynchings during 1923, are credited to the South. This newspaper heartily honors and applauds the sheriffs and constables and their deputies and the soldiery, who removed the prisoners to places of safety, or reinforced the guard about the jails, or vanquished the mob with leaden "persuasion." But it insists, as it has reason and right to insist, that there must be the pound of cure where the ounce of prevention does not do the work; that where no brave, honest, duty-bound effort to prevent a lynching is exerted, or where such an effort fails, the lynchers must be punished.

Court officers—judges, prosecutors, jurors—must do their full duty, no less than the executive peace-officers. "Lynching cannot exist where the community does not tolerate it." And—"of the 52 (alleged lynchers) brought to trial during the year, only two were sent to the penitentiary."

There is the most powerful shell possible for the heaviest gun which Representative Dyer of Missouri can wheel into his battle for a Federal anti-lynching law!

* * *

And what of "the unspeakable crime" as a cause of lynchings in 1923? Does it figure as 33 1/3, or even as 30, per cent of the causes—as usual? No; it figures as less than 25 per cent of the motives assigned:

Six consummated attacks and one attempted attack on white women, by negroes—out of some thirty lynchings Texas is in the infamous record again, of course. It never has been honorably and inspiringly—and profitably—absent from the annual lynching statistics since these were inaugurated more than a generation ago (1885).

There have been a few years when the bloody "banner" appeared without the names of Florida—even Florida!—Kentucky, Louisiana, Missouri, North Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia and West Virginia; and in 1923, Alabama and South Carolina achieved this high distinction for the first time since 1884—but not Texas, Arkansas, Georgia or Mississippi.

Our State Government still is worried infinitely more about bootleggers and gamblers than about mere murderers—mob murderers—apparently, and not a single member of Texas' two lynch-mobs in 1923 has been dragged to justice.

It is the same old story—but with this somewhat consoling difference: Texas headed the foul record in 1922 with 18 lynchings; but for 1923 it is charged with two lynchings, disputing fourth place with Arkansas. And one of its lynchings last year was perpetrated in a remarkable quarter—Fayette County.

No; so long as it takes two figures to total the annual record, there will be no "banner year" for lynchings in this country—despite the comparison of 20 mob murders in 1892, and "only" 3 in 1923.

Herald
NEW YORK CITY
JAN 1 1924

MOTON SAYS LYNCHINGS DROPPED A HALF IN 1923

57 Were Put to Death in 1922 and Only 28 in 1923.

TUSKEGEE, Ala., Dec. 31.—R. R. Moton, principal of the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute, has issued his annual statement on lynchings in the United States. He says:

"I find that there were twenty-eight persons lynched in 1923. This is twenty-nine less than the number fifty-seven for the year 1922. Thirteen of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, seven from jails, and six from officers of the law outside of jails.

"There were forty-six instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Four women, three white and one colored, were among those thus saved. Six of these preventions of lynchings were in northern states and forty in southern states. In thirty-seven of the cases the prisoners were removed or guards augmented or other precautions taken. In the nine other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. In eight instances during the year persons charged with being connected with lynching mobs were brought to trial. Of the fifty-two persons thus before the courts only two were sent to the penitentiary.

"Of the twenty-eight persons lynched in 1923, twenty-six were negroes and two were whites; two of the former were women. The nine States in which lynchings occured and the number in each State are as follows: Arkansas, two; Florida, eight; Georgia, four; Louisiana, one; Mississippi, eight; Missouri, one; Oklahoma, one; Texas, two; Virginia, one."

BOSTON MASS. GLOBE
JANUARY 2, 1924

MOBS LYNCHED 28 PERSONS IN 1923

Two Were White, Rest Negroes

Twenty-eight persons were lynched in the United States in 1923, according to statistics sent out last night by the Tuskegee Institute of Alabama. In 1922 there were 57 lynched.

There were 46 instances listed in which officers of the law prevented crowds from lynching. Fifty-two persons were brought into courts during the year charged with being implicated in lynchings, and of these two were sent to jail. Of the 28 persons lynched, 26 were negroes and two were white. Of those killed, seven were charged with rape. The others were charged with murder, attempted rape, resisting officers of the law, assisting persons charged with offenses to escape, resisting posse seeking offenders, cattle stealing, insulting women, peeping in windows and "trying to act like a white man."

The States and numbers of lynchings in each were: Arkansas, 2; Florida, 8; Georgia, 4; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 8; Missouri, 1; Oklahoma, 1; Texas, 2, and Virginia, 1.

LOUISVILLE KY. COURIER JOUR
Wednesday, Jan. 2, 1924

LYNCHINGS IN 1923 DROP 50 PER CENT

Tuskegee, Ala., Jan. 1 (Associated Press).—Lynchings in the United States decreased more than 50 per cent during 1923, as compared with 1922, according to figures made public by the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute. During 1923 there were twenty-eight lynchings as compared with fifty-seven for the preceding year, these figures showed. Twenty-six of the number were negroes and two were whites. Two women were among the victims of mobs.

LANSING MICH JOUR
SATURDAY, JANUARY 5, 1924.

Getting Civilized

The United States of America appears to be on the road towards civilization. There has been an actual improvement in our lynching records during the past year.

According to the figures compiled by Tuskegee Institute only 28 persons were lynched in 1923, as against 57 in 1922. If we could maintain the same progress there wouldn't be any mob killings, but this is too much to hope.

All of the lynchings mentioned occurred in southern states. Up north here we don't get so excited over the same crimes, or alleged crimes, that bother the south and call for speedy action. If a person is murdered or assaulted, the north allows the law to take its course, as is right and proper, but is inclined to go still farther and lament any lack of leniency towards the guilty. Up north we sob over the criminals. Down south they hang them if they can get their hands on the violators, that is if the latter are negroes.

However, it was not altogether the fault of southerners they failed to lynch more. Officers prevented lynchings in 46 cases, six of which were in the north. Of those lynched, 26 were negroes, two of whom were women. The offenses charged included three of murder, and others were assault and lesser crimes, such as imitating a white man and peeping in a window.

Our lynching records continue a black mark on the escutcheon of America. They show that mobs have not advanced beyond the primeval stages; that they are still governed by passion, and that once aroused only force can control them. Mankind in a group does not think and act the same as in the individual. As an unorganized mass it is worse, as organized society it is better.

WARSAW, IND., UNION
Wednesday, Jan. 2, 1924

FEWER LYNCHINGS IN U. S. DURING 192

Tuskegee, Ala., Jan. 2—Lynchin in the United States decreased mo than 50 per cent during 1923, compared with 1922, according figures made public by the Tuskeg Normal and Industrial Institute. Du ing 1923 there were twenty-eigh lynchings, as compared with fifty seven for the preceding year, thes figures showed. Twenty-six of the number were negroes and two were whites. Two women were among the victims of mobs.

Council Bluffs, Iowa, NONPARIEL
Friday, Dec. 28, 1923

LYNCHING DECLINES IN THE LAST YEAR

ONLY TWENTY-SIX MURDERS AGAINST SIXTY-ONE THE YEAR BEFORE.

NEW YORK, Dec. 27.—Sharp decline in the number of lynchings in the United States during the year 1923, the figure being twenty-six, as against sixty-one in 1922, was laid to the agitation for a federal anti-lynching law, and to the northward migration of negroes, in a statement today by James Weldon Johnson, secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, 69 Fifth avenue, New York.

Mississippi and Florida leads the list of lynching states with five mob murders each. Georgia is second with four. Oklahoma is third with three. Arkansas, Alabama and Texas have two each. Other state in which one lynching occurred are: Louisiana, Missouri and Virginia.

Only seven of the twenty-six persons were charged with assault upon women, and in the case of one of the seven, the janitor of the University of Missouri, grave doubt was subsequently cast upon the guilt of the mob's victim. Other offenses for which lynchings occurred include: Mistaken identity, aiding in escape, associating with white women, being in an automobile accident, remaining in a town where negroes were not wanted, and frightening white children by walking harmlessly along a country road. Two of the victims of lynching mobs were white men. One colored woman was lynched in Pickens, Miss.

"Two main causes brought about the decline in lynching in 1923," said Mr. Johnson. "First was the agitation on the floor of congress, and throughout the country, for a federal anti-lynching bill, the measure introduced by Mr. Dyer passing the last house of representatives by a vote of 230 to 119. The second main cause was the northward migration of negroes by the hundreds of thousands. This was borne in on the south that lynching will have to be stopped if the best labor the south can get for its plantations and industries is to be retained. Prospects for the enactment of the Dyer anti-lynching bill in the present congress are excellent, in the light of President Coolidge's anti-lynching pronouncement in his message to congress. It is to be hoped that in a very few years, the crime of lynching will have been completely wiped out in America."

DUBUQUE IA AMERICAN-TRIBUNE
SATURDAY, JANUARY 5, 1924.

The Readers' Exchange.

LYNCHINGS IN 1923

Tuskegee Institute, Ala., Dec. 31.

Editor, Daily American Tribune:—I send you the following concerning lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research, Monroe N. Work in charge. I find that there were 28 persons lynched in 1923. This is 29 less than the number 57 for the year 1922. Thirteen of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 7 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails.

We also find that there were 46 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Four women, 3 white and 1 colored, were among those thus saved. Six of these preventions of lynchings were in Northern states and 40 in Southern states. In 37 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In the 9 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. In 8 instances during the year persons charged with being connected with lynching mobs were brought to trial. Of the 52 persons thus before the courts only 2 were sent to the penitentiary. Of the 28 persons lynched in 1923, 26 were Negroes and 2 were whites; two of the former were women.

The nine states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 2; Florida, 8; Georgia, 4; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 8; Missouri, 1; Oklahoma, 1; Texas, 2; Virginia, 1. Yours very truly—R. R. Moton, Principal.

WARSAW, IND., TIMES.
Wednesday, Jan. 2, 1924

28 PERSONS LYNCHED IN UNITED STATES IN 1923

Tuskegee, Ala., Jan. 2.—Lynchings in the United States decreased more than 50 per cent during 1923, as compared with 1922, according to figures made public by the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute. There were 28 lynching in 1923, and 57 in 1922. Twenty-six were Negroes and two were whites. Two were women.

NEW YORK CITY TIMES
JANUARY 1, 1924

Lynchings

Principal R. R. Moton of the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute reports as follows on the year's crime and disaster as compiled by Monroe N. Work of the Department of Records of the institute:

"I find that there were twenty-eight persons lynched in 1923. This is twenty-nine less than the number fifty-seven for the year 1922. Thirteen of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, seven from jails and six from officers of the law outside of jails.

"We also found that there were forty-six instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Four women, three white and one colored, were among those thus saved. Six of these preventions of lynchings were in Northern States and forty in Southern States. In thirty-seven of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In the nine other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. In eight instances during the year persons charged with being connected with lynching mobs were brought to trial. Of the fifty-two persons thus before the courts only two were sent to the penitentiary.

"Of the twenty-eight persons lynched in 1923, twenty-six were negroes and two were whites; two of the former were women. Seven, or one-fourth of those put to death, were charged with rape or attempted rape; one of the victims was burned to death; one was put to death and then the body was burned. The charge against the one burned to death was murder.

"The offenses charged against the whites were: participation in strike depredations, 1; being taken as a negro, 1. The offenses charged against the negroes were: murder, 3; murderous assault, 2; rape, 6; attempted rape, 1; killing officer of the law, 2; wounding officer of the law, 2; no charge reported, 3; assisting man charged with rape to escape, 1; resisting posse searching for man charged with rape, 1; cattle stealing, 1; "trying to act like white man and not knowing his place," 1; insulting woman, 1; peeping in window, 1; striking man in altercation, 1.

"The nine states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 2; Florida, 8; Georgia, 4; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 8; Missouri, 1; Oklahoma, 1; Texas, 2; Virginia, 1."

TAYLORVILLE ILL., COURIER
Wednesday, Jan. 2, 1924

LYNCHINGS REDUCED BY ONE-HALF IN 1923

Tuskegee, Ala., Jan. 2.—Lynchings in the United States decreased more than 50 per cent during 1923, as compared with 1922, according to figures made public by the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute. During 1923 there were twenty-eight lynchings, as compared with fifty-seven for the preceding year, these figures showed. Twenty-six of the number were negroes and two were whites. Two women were among the victims of mobs.

These figures gave Mississippi and Florida 8 lynchings each, Georgia 4, Arkansas 2, Texas 2, Virginia 1, Missouri 1, Oklahoma 1, and Louisana 1 were reported from North Carolina, South Carolina and Alabama, according to the Tuskegee compilation.

The Tuskegee report says there were forty-six instances during the year in which officers of the law prevented lynchings, forty of these cases being in Southern states and six in Northern states.

Thirteen of those lynched last year were taken from the hands of the law, the report states, seven from jails and six from officers outside of jails. Seven of the victims were charged with attack or attempted attack, 3 with murder, 2 with murderous assault, 2 for wounding an officer of the law and the rest with other offenses.

JAMESTOWN, N. Y., JOURNAL
Wednesday, January 2, 1924

STATISTICS ON LYNCHING IN U. S.

Decrease of More Than 50 Per Cent In 1923 As Compared With 1922, Says Tuskegee Normal Institute.

Tuskegee, Ala., Jan. 2.—Lynching in the United States decreased more than 30 per cent during 1923 as compared with 1922, according to figures made public by the Tuskegee Normal Industrial institute. During 1923 there were 28 lynchings as compared with 57 for the preceding year, these figures showed. Twenty-six of the number were negroes and two were whites. Two women were among the victims of mobs.

These figures gave Mississippi and Alabama eight lynchings each, Georgia four, Arkansas two, Texas two, Virginia one, Missouri one, Oklahoma one, Louisiana one. None was reported from North Carolina and South Carolina, according to the Tuskegee compilation.

The Tuskegee report says there were forty-six instances during the year in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Forty of these cases were in southern states and six in northern states.

Thirteen of those lynched last year were taken from the hands of the authorities, the report states, seven from jails and six from officers outside jails. Seven of the victims were charged with attack or attempted attack, three with murder, two with murderous assault, two for wounding an officer of the law and the rest with other offenses.

Lynchings—1923.
Reports on, Sent Press.

Jan.—Dec.

1461

SAN JOSE, CAL., NEWS
JANUARY 1, 1924

HERE'S AMERICAN 1923 LYNCHING RECORD

(From The Tuskegee Institute.)

I send you the following concerning lynchings for the pas year as compiled by Tuskegee institute in the department c records and research, Monroe N. Work in charge. I find tha there were 28 persons lynched in 1923. This is 29 less than the number 57 for the year 1922. Thirteen of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, seven from jails and six from officers of the law outside of jails.

We also find that there were 46 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Four women, three white and one colored, were among those thus saved. Six of these preventions of lynchings were in northern states and 40 in southern states. In 37 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In the nine other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. In eight instances during the year persons charged with being connected with lynching mobs were brought to trial. Of the 52 persons thus before the courts only two were sent to the penitentiary.

Of the 28 persons lynched in 1923, 26 were negroes and 2 were whites; two of the former were women. Seven or one-fourth of those put to death were charged with rape or attempted rape; one of the victims was burned to death; one was put to death and then the body was burned. The charge against the one burned to death was murder.

The offenses charged against the whites were: Participation in strike depredations, 1; being taken as a negro, 1. The offenses charged against the negroes were: Murder, 3; murderous assault, 2; rape, 6; attempted rape, 1; killing officer of the law, 2; wounding officer of the law, 2; no charge reported, 3; assisting man charged with rape to escape, 1; resisting posse searching for man charged with rape, 1; cattle stealing, 1; "trying to act like white man and not knowing his place," 1; insulting woman, 1; peeping in window, 1; striking man in altercation, 1.

The nine states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 2; Florida, 8; Georgia, 4; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 8; Missouri, 1; Oklahoma, 1; Texas, 2; Virginia, 1.

CHICAGO ILL NEWS
TUESDAY, JANUARY 8, 1924.

Combating the Lynching Evil.

In his annual report on lynchings in the United States Dr. Moton, principal of the Tuskegee institute, shows a gratifying reduction in the number.

Twenty-eight persons were lynched in 1923, as compared with fifty-seven in the preceding year. Only two white persons suffered thus from the vengeful fanaticism of the mob. Florida and Mississippi had eight lynchings each. Georgia was next with four and Arkansas followed with two. In each of six other southern or southwestern states there was one lynching.

Even more significant than the sharp reduction in the number of lynchings is the fact that in no fewer than forty-six cases officers of the law prevented mob murder by vigorous performance of duty in protecting their prisoners. In nine instances armed force was used to repulse would-be lynchers.

Public determination to stamp out mob violence and enforce due process of law is admitted by all to be an important factor in the improved situation, but of late other notable factors have added their influence. The northward movement of colored laborers is one of these and the agitation in and out of congress for federal antilynching legislation is another.

The south is hostile toward federal legislation designed to re-enforce its efforts to combat the lynching evil. It should diligently seek to make federal intervention unnecessary by strengthening state laws directed against mob usurpation of power and by building up a public sentiment that will brook no such usurpation.

COLUMBUS, GA. Dispatch
JAN 1 - 1924

GEORGIA HAD ONLY FOUR LYNCHINGS

DECREASE OF FIFTY PER-CENT OVER WHOLE COUNTRY

Tuskegee, Ala., Jan. 1.—Lynchings in the United States decreased more than 50 percent during 1923 as compared with 1922, according to figures made public today by Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute.

During 1923 there were 28 lynchings, compared with 57 for the preceding year. Twenty-six were negroes and two whites.

Mississippi and Florida led with eight lynchings each, Georgia was third with four.

ANAHEIM, CAL., GAZETTE Bulletin
JANUARY 6, 1924

LYNCHINGS SHOW BIG DECREASE IN U. S.

TUSKEGEE, Ala., Jan. 5—Lynchings in the United States decreased more than 50 per cent during 1923 as compared with 1922, according to figures made public by the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute. During 1923 there were twenty-eight lynchings as compared with fifty-seven for the preceding year, these figures showed. Twenty-six of the number were negroes and six were whites. Two women were among the victims of mobs.

These figures gave Mississipi and Florida eight lynchings each; Georgia, four; Arkansas, two; Texas, two; Virginia, one; Missouri, one; Oklahoma, one; Louisiana, one.

Salt Lake City, Utah, Tribune
JANUARY 2, 1924

...s Show Decrease ...e Year Just Ende...

TUSKEGEE, Ala., Jan. 1.—Lynchings in the United States decreased more than 50 per cent during 1923, as compared with 1922, according to figures made public by the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute. During 1923 there were twenty-eight lynchings, as compared with fifty-seven for the preceding year, these figures showed. Twenty-six of the number were negroes and two were whites. Two women were among the victims of mobs.

These figures gave Mississippi and Florida eight lynchings each, Georgia four, Arkansas two, Texas two, Virginia one, Missouri one, Oklahoma one, Louisiana one.

The Tuskegee report says there were forty-six instances during the year in which officers of the law prevented lynchings.

NACOGDOCHES TEX. SENTINEL
JANUARY 1, 1924

LYNCHING RECORD

(By Associated Press)

Tuskegee, Ala., Jan. 1.—Lynchings in the United States decreased more than 50 percent during 1923 as compared with 1922, according to figures made public by the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute. During last year there were 28 lynchings, compared with 57 for the preceding year, the figures showed. Twenty-six of the number were negroes, and two were whites. Two women were among the victims of mobs. Two lynchings were reported in Texas.

SALEM, ORE., STATESMAN
JANUARY 2, 1924

Lynchings Decreased One Half During Year 1923

TUSKEGEE, Ala., Jan. 1.—Lynchings in the United States decreased more than 50 per cent during 1923, as compared with 1922, according to figures made public by the Tuskegee normal and industrial institute.

During 1923 there were 28 lynchings as compared with 57, in the preceding year, these figures showed. Twenty-six of the number were negroes and two were whites. Two women were among the victims of mobs.

The figures gave Mississippi and Florida eight lynchings each; Georgia four; Arkansas two; Texas two; Virginia one; Missouri one; Oklahoma one; Louisiana one.

The Tuskegee report says there were 46 instances during the year in which officers of law prevented lynchings.

COLTON, CAL., COURIER
JANUARY 3, 1924

LYNCHINGS IN U. S. ON DECREASE

TUSKEGEE, Ala., Jan. 3.—Lynchings in the United States decreased more than 50 per cent during 1923, as compared with 1922, according to figures made public by the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute. During 1923 there were twenty-eight lynchings as compared with fifty-seven for the preceding year, these figures showed. Twenty-six of the number were negroes and two were whites. Two women were among the victims of mobs.

These figures gave Mississippi and Florida eight lynchings each; Georgia, four; Arkansas, two; Texas, two; Virginia, one; Missouri, one; Oklahoma, one; Louisiana, one.

CHATTANOOGA, TENN., NEWS
Tuesday, Jan. 1, 1924

FEWER LYNCHINGS

According to records kept at Tuskegee Institute, the number of lynchings in the country for 1923 was twenty-eight. That is twenty-nine below the total of sixty-seven for the year previous, or slightly less than half. And, inasmuch as the reduction was apparently not a mere happen-so, the showing gives encouragement. There were numerous attempts or threats of lynchings which were foiled through the vigilance and activity of officers of the law. In this latter connection it may be said that officers frequently remove prisoners from the community of their alleged crime as a precaution of safety, even when no commotion is noted.

Florida and Mississippi head the list in the record of lynchings with eight each. Such a large number would seem to indicate a lack of energetic measures of prevention. Most southern states are grappling with the evil, however, and are accomplishing gratifying results. We believe that the overwhelming sentiment of the better people of the south is against this barbarous practice and anxious to secure its amelioration. Such opinion inevitably finds its reflex in the more determined attitude of governors and lesser officials who have to do with the enforcement of the law. And such a feeling, we believe, will continue and grow stronger.

It was perhaps to be expected that a certain meddling "society" in the

east would claim credit for the very great improvement which the reports indicate. But such a claim has little foundation. That society's attitude has been so manifestly hostile toward the white people of the south as to make co-operation with it out of the question. Its attempts to intervene in the trial of cases where the guilt of the accused was notorious have only provoked popular resentment. Moreover, it never seems over-scrupulous about obtaining the facts. It practically assumes that any prosecution of a negro is persecution.

We are especially pleased that not a single lynching occurred last year in Tennessee. There have been very few in the last half a dozen years. Our officials are to be commended for their vigilance. Perhaps an even greater reason for felicitation, however, is found in the fact that lynchings are now seldom attempted in Tennessee. Our people favor the enforcement and the equal protection of the law.

LEBANON, KY. ENTERPRISE
Friday, Dec. 28, 1923

Lynchings In 1923.

The following concerning lynchings in 1923 was compiled by Tuskegee Institute:

There were 28 persons lynched in 1923. This is 29 less than the number 57 for the year 1922. Thirteen of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 7 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails.

There were 46 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Four women, 3 white and 1 colored, were among those thus saved. Six of these preventions of lynchings were in Northern States and 40 in Southern States. In 37 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In the 9 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. In 8 instances during the year persons charged with being connected with lynching mobs were brought to trial. Of the 52 persons thus before the courts only 2 were sent to the penitentiary.

Of the 28 persons lynched in 1923, 26 were negroes and 2 were whites; two of the former were women. Seven, or one-fourth of those put to death, were charged with rape or attempted rape; one of the victims was burned to death; one was put to death and then the body was burned. The charge against the one burned to death was murder.

The offenses charged against the whites were: Participation in strike depredations, 1; being taken as a negro, 1. The offenses charged against the negroes were: Murder, 3; murderous assault, 2; rape, 6; attempted rape, 1; killing officer of the law, 2; wounding officer of the law, 2; no charge reported, 3; assisting man charged with rape to escape, 1; resisting posse searching for man charged with rape, 1; cattle stealing, 1; "trying to act like white man and not knowing his place," 1; insulting woman, 1; peeping in window, 1; striking man in altercation, 1.

The nine States in which lynchings occurred and the number in each State are as follows: Arkansas, 2; Florida, 8; Georgia, 4; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 8; Missouri, 1; Oklahoma, 1; Texas, 2; Virginia, 1.

AUGUSTA (ME) KENNEBEC JOUR.
December 31, 1923

TUSKEGEE RECORD YEAR'S LYNCHINGS SHOWS IMPROVEMENT

Tuskegee Institute Ala., Dec. 31—The following data, sent out by R. R. Moton, principal of Tuskegee Institute, concerns lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the department of records and research, Monroe N. Work in charge: "I find that there were 28 persons lynched in 1923. This is 29 less than the number 57 for the year 1922. Thirteen of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 7 from the jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails.

"We also find that there were 46 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Four women, 3 white and 1 colored, were among those thus saved. Six of these preventions of lynchings were in northern states and 40 in Southern states. In 37 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In the 9 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. In 8 instances during the year persons charged with being connected with lynching mobs were brought to trial. Of the 52 persons thus before the courts only 2 were sent to the penetentiary.

"Of the 28 persons lynched in 1923, 26 were negroes and 2 were whites; two of the former were women. 7 or one fourth of those put to death were charged with rape or attempted rape; one of the victims was burned to death, one was put to death and then the body was burned. The charge against the one burned to death was murder.

"The offenses charged against the whites were: participation in strike depredations, 1; being taken as a negro, 1. The offenses charged against the negroes were: murder, 3; murderous assault, 2; rape, 6; attempted rape, 1; killing officer of the law, 2; wounding officer of the law, 2; no charge reported, 3; assisting man charged with rape to escape, 1; resisting posse searching for man charged with rape, 1; cattle stealing, 1; "trying to act liko a white man and not knowing his place," 1; insulting woman, 1; peeping in window, 1; striking man in altercation, 1.

"The nine states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 2; Florida, 8; Georgia, 4; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 8; Missouri, 1; Oklahoma, 1; Texas, 2; Virginia, 1."

NEW YORK CITY AMERICAN
JANUARY 2, 1924

28 Lynchings for 1923 Halves Record of 1922

TUSKEGEE, Jan. 1.—Lynchings in the United States decreased more than fifty per cent during 1923, as compared with 1922, according to figures made public by the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute.

During 1923 there were 28 lynchings. Twenty-six of the number were negroes. Two women were among the victims.

BLOOM[illegible] Pantagraph
Wednesday, Jan. 2, 1924

50 PER CENT LESS LYNCHINGS IN 1923

Tuskegee, Ala., Jan. 1.—Lynchings in the United States decreased more than fifty percent during 1923, as compared with 1922, according to figures made public by the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute. During 1923 there were 28 lynchings as compared with 57 the preceding year, these figures showed. Twenty-six were negroes and two were whites. Two women were included.

BLOOMINGTON, ILL., BULLETIN
Wednesday, Jan. 2, 1924

LYNCHINGS IN U. S. DECREASED BY HALF

TUSKGEE, Ala., Jan. 2—Lynchings in the United States decreased more than fifty per cent during 1923 as compared with 1922 according to figures made public by the Tuskgee Normal and Industrial institute. During 1923 there were twenty-eight lynchings as compared with fifty-seven the preceding year, these figures showed. Twenty-six were negroes and two were whites. Two women were included.

PERU, IND., JOURNAL.
Wednesday, Jan. 2, 1924

FEWER LYNCHINGS IN 1923

TUSKEGEE, Ala., Jan. 2-Lynchings in the United States decreased more than 50 per cent during 1923, as compared with 1922, according to figures made public by the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute. During 1923 there were twenty-eight lynchings, as compared with fifty-seven for the previous year, these figures showed. Twenty-six of the number were negroes and two were whites. Two women were among the victims of mobs

BRISTOL (VA) HERALD-COURIER
December 30, 1923

Improved Lynching Record.

Lynching statistics for the last year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute at Tuskegee, Alabama, show a gratifying improvement in the record of mob lawlessness.

The number of persons lynched in 1922 was fifty-seven, while the number lynched in 1923 was twenty-eight, or not quite half the number lynched in 1922. Of the twenty-eight persons lynched in 1923, twenty-six were Negroes and two were whites, two of the Negroes being women.

While twenty-eight persons were lynched during this year, forty-six attempted lynchings were prevented. Six of these preventions of lynchings were in Northern States and forty in Southern States. In thirty-seven of the cases the prisoners were removed or guards augmented or other precautions taken, while in the nine other instances armed force was used to repel the mobs.

The Nine States in which lynchings occurred and the number of each are given: Arkansas, two; Florida, eight; Georgia, four; Louisiana, one; Mississippi, eight; Missouri, 1; Oklahoma, one; Texas, two; Virginia, one. So it is seen that Georgia, which usually leads in the number of lynchings, took second place this year.

Not only officers of the law with prisoners in their charge but the courts seem to have given the mobs more trouble this year. In eight instances during the year persons charged with being connected with lynchings were brought to trial. The number of persons thus arraigned was fifty-two, but only two were sent to the penitentiary.

The improvement in the lynching record is encouraging, but the record still is disgraceful. There is room for further improvement. Mob lawless can and should be wined out.

NAMPA, IDAHO, PRESS
JANUARY 3, 1924

Lynching in U. S. Greatly Decreased in 1923 Over '22

TUSKEGEE, Ala.—Statistics compiled by the Tuskegee Institute show that 28 persons were lynched in 1923, or 29 less than the number in 1922. Thirteen of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, seven from jails and six from officers of the law outside of jails.

It is also found that there were 46 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Four women, three white and one colored, were among those thus saved. Six of these preventions of lynchings were in northern states and 40 in southern states. In 37 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In the nine other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. In eight instances during the year persons charged with being connected with lynching mobs were brought to trial. Of the 52 persons thus before the courts only two were sent to the penitentiary.

Of the 28 persons lynched in 1923, 26 were negroes and two were whites; two of the former were women. Seven and one-fourth of those put to death were charged with rape or attempted rape; one of the victims was burned to death; one was put to death and then the body was burned. The charge against the one burned to death was murder.

The offenses charged against the whites were: Participation in strike depredations, 1; being taken as a negro, 1. The offenses charged against the negroes were. Murder, 3; murderous assault, 2; rape, 6; attempted rape, 1; killing officer of the law, 2; wounding officer of the law, 2; no charge reported, 3; assisting man charged with rape to escape, 1; resisting posse searching for man charged with rape, 1; cattle stealing, 1; "trying to act like white man and not knowing his place," 1; insulting woman, 1; peeping in window, 1; striking man in altercation, 1.

The nine states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 2; Florida, 8; Georgia, 4; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 8; Missouri, 1; Oklahoma, 1; Texas, 2; Virginia, 1.

INDIANAPOLIS, IND., STAR
Wednesday, Jan. 2, 1924

FEWER LYNCHINGS IN 1923.

TUSKEGEE, Ala., Jan. 1.—Lynchings in the United States decreased more than 50 per cent during 1923, as compared with 1922, according to figures made public by the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute. During 1923 there were twenty-eight lynchings, as compared with fifty-seven for the preceding year, these figures showed. Twenty-six of the number were negroes and two were whites. Two women were among the victims of mobs.

Lynchings—1923. 1462
Reports on Sent Press.

Jan.—Dec.

NEW YORK CITY TRIBUNE
JANUARY 2, 1924

Lynchings of 1923

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: I send you the following concerning lynchings for the last year, as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the department of records and research, Monroe N. Work in charge. I find that there were 28 persons lynched in 1923. This is 29 less than the number (57) for the year 1922. Thirteen of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law—7 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails.

We also find that there were 46 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Four women—3 white and 1 colored—were among those thus saved. Six of these preventions of lynchings were in Northern states and 40 in Southern states. In 37 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In the 9 other instances armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. In 8 instances during the year persons charged with being connected with lynching mobs were brought to trial. Of the 52 persons thus before the courts only 2 were sent to the penitentiary.

Of the 28 persons lynched in 1923 26 were negroes and 2 were whites; two of the former were women. Seven, or one-fourth, of those put to death were charged with rape or attempted rape. One of the victims was burned to death; one was put to death and then the body was burned. The charge against the one burned to death was murder.

The nine states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 2; Florida, 8; Georgia, 4; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 8; Missouri, 1; Oklahoma, 1; Texas, 2; Virginia, 1.

R. R. MOTON,
Principal Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute.
Tuskegee Institute, Ala., Dec. 31, 1923.

GREENVILLE S. C. HERALD
JAN 1 1924

FEWER LYNCHINGS IN 1923, SAYS REPORT

Twenty-Eight Suffer Death In United States, Tuskegee Institute Figures Show.

Figures compiled by the Tuskegee institute show that there was a decided falling off in the number of lynchings in 1923, according to information received Monday. There were but 28 persons lynched during the year, as against 57 for 1922. Of this number, 13 were taken from the hands of the law. Twenty-six were negroes and two were whites; two of the former were women; one of the victims was burned to death; one was killed and then the body burned.

The lynchings occurred in nine states, as follows: Mississippi 8, Florida 8, Arkansas 2, Texas 2, Georgia 4 Missouri 1, Oklahoma 1, Virginia 1 and Louisiana 1

There were 46 instances in which officers of the law repelled lynchers.

Chattanooga Times
Wednesday
Jan 2—24

LYNCHINGS REDUCED BY HALF DURING 1923

TUSKEGEE, Ala., Jan. 1.—Lynching in the United States decreased more than 50 per cent during 1923, as compared with 1922, according to figures made public by the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute. During 1923 there were twenty-eight lynchings, as compared with fifty-seven for the preceding year, these figures showed.

Twenty-six of the number were negroes and two were whites.

Two women were among the victims of the mobs.

The figures gave Mississippi and Florida 8 lynchings each; Georgia, 4; Arkansas, 2; Texas, 2; Virginia, 1; Missouri, 1; Oklahoma, 1; Louisiana, 1.

None was reported from North Carolina, South Carolina and Alabama, according to the Tuskegee compilation.

The Tuskegee report says there were forty-six instances during the year in which officers of the law prevented lynchings, forty of these cases being in southern states and six in northern states.

Thirteen of those lynched last year were taken from the hands of the law and, report states, seven from jails and six from officers outside of jails. Seven of the victims were charged with attack or attempted attack, three with murder, two with murderous assault, two for wounding an officer of the law, and the rest with other offenses.

ST. LOUIS MO GLOBE DEMOCRAT
JANUARY 2, 1924

LYNCHINGS REDUCED BY ONE-HALF IN 1923

Tuskegee Institute Reports 28 Violent Deaths in Past Year.

By Associated Press.

TUSKEGEE, ALA., January 1.—Lynchings in the United States decreased more than 50 per cent during 1923, as compared with 1922, according to figures made public by the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute. During 1923 there were twenty-eight lynchings, as compared with fifty-seven for the preceding year, these figures showed. Twenty-six of the number were negroes and two were whites. Two women were among the victims of mobs.

These figures gave Mississippi and Florida 8 lynchings each, Georgia 4, Arkansas 2, Texas 2, Virginia 1, Missouri 1, Oklahoma 1 and Louisiana 1. None was reported from North Carolina, South Carolina and Alabama, according to the Tuskegee compilation.

The Tuskegee report says there were forty-six instances during the year in which officers of the law prevented lynchings, forty of these cases being in Southern states and six in Northern states.

Thirteen of those lynched last year were taken from the hands of the law, the report states, seven from jails and six from officers outside of jails. Seven of the victims were charged with attack or attempted attack, 3 with murder, 2 with murderous assault, 2 for wounding an officer of the law, and the rest with other offenses.

We also find that there were 46 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings.

Four women—3 white and 1 colored—were among those thus saved.

Six of these preventions of lynchings were in Northern States and 40 in Southern States.

In 37 of the cases the prisoners were removed, or the guards augmented, or other precautions taken.

In the 9 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers.

In 8 instances during the year, persons charged with being connected with lynching mobs were brought to trial.

Of the 52 persons thus before the courts, only 2 were sent to the penitentiary.

Of the 28 persons lynched, 26 were negroes and 2 were whites; 2 of the former were women.

Seven, or one-fourth of those put to death, were charged with rape or attempted rape.

One of the victims was burned to death; 1 was put to death and then the body was burned.

The charge against the 1 burned to death was murder.

The offenses charged against the whites were:

Participation in strike depredations, 1; being taken as a negro, 1.

The offenses charged against the negroes were:

Murder, 3; murderous assault, 2; rape, 3; attempted rape, 1; killing officer of the law, 2; wounding officer of the law, 2; no charge reported, 3; assisting man charged with rape to escape, 1; resisting posse searching for man charged with rape, 1; cattle-stealing, 1; "trying to act like white man and not knowing his place", 1; insulting woman, 1; peeping in window, 1; striking man in altercation, 1.

The 9 States in which lynchings occurred, and the number in each State, are as follows:

Arkansas, 2; Florida, 8; Georgia, 4; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 8; Missouri, 1; Oklahoma, 1; Texas, 2; Virginia, 1.

ROBERT R. MOTON,
Principal, Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute.
Tuskegee Institute, Alabama.

Express
San Antonio
1-1-24

LYNCHING RECORD FOR 1923

To the Editor of San Antonio Express:

I send you the following concerning lynchings for the past year, as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research, Monroe N. Work in charge.

I find that there were 28 persons lynched in 1923.

This is 29 less than the number (57) for the year 1922.

Thirteen of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 7 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails.

Nine states were shamed by the mob in the year 1923—Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, Oklahoma, Texas and Virginia. Florida and Mississippi each went on record with eight lynchings.

To intensify and aggravate the disgrace of mob activities it may be noted that in only eight cases in 1923 were persons accused

LAFAYETTE IND JOUR & COUR
SATURDAY, JANUARY 5, 1924.

MOBS IN 1923

From Tuskegee institute, department of records and research, comes the story of lynchings for 1923. Monroe N. Work, in charge of the bureau, reports that twenty-eight persons were lynched in the last year in the United States. The lynching tragedies were fewer by twenty-nine than in 1922, when fifty-seven lynchings took place.

Of the twenty-eight persons lynched, thirteen were taken from officers of the law—seven being removed from jails to be murdered by mobs. In forty-six cases, it is reported, officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of the twenty-eight lynched, twenty-six were negroes and two were whites, two of the negroes being women.

Nine states were shamed by the mob in the year 1923—Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, Oklahoma, Texas and Virginia. Florida and Mississippi each went on record with eight lynchings.

To intensify and aggravate the disgrace of mob activities it may be noted that in only eight cases in 1923 were persons accused of mob connection put on trial. Of nrty-two persons tried on charges of connection with mobs, two were sent to the penitentiary.

It is the nature of the mob that it makes criminals in droves—one crime, sought to be "avenged" by the mob, thus may create a thousand additional criminals. And it is to be said to the discredit of the mob-ridden community in most instances that it is still extremely difficult to get action for the punishment of the persons who make up the mob, no matter how hideous and uncalled-for its lawless and murderous deed may have been.

LAFAYETTE, IND., COURIER
Friday, Jan. 4, 1924

MOBS IN 1923

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Of the twenty-eight persons lynched, thirteen were taken from officers of the law—seven being removed from jails to be murdered by mobs. In forty-six cases, it is reported, officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of the twenty-eight lynched, twenty-six were negroes and two were whites, two of the negroes being women.

1462

It is not for any state or community to wax over-noisy in criticism or condemnation of the states and communities branded by mob misdeeds. The primary need is for each community to make itself safe and secure against all lawlessness and against the incentives and tendencies that breed mob

...sday, January 1, 1924

DECREASE IN SOUTHERN LYNCHINGS.

For many years the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute, the excellent school for colored young men and women founded by Booker T. Washington, has performed a valuable public service by keeping a record of lynchings and the attendant circumstances. This record, given out at the end of each year and widely published, has attracted public attention to the enormity of the evil and has helped to arouse sentiment against its continuance.

The statistics for 1923 for the first time show a marked decrease in the number of lynchings. There were only 28 persons lynched in 1923, as against 57 in 1922, which is a decrease of 50 per cent. in one year, and that too at a time when there has been a great deal of disrespect for law and order in other directions, notably manifested in a too general contempt for the prohibition laws, and a private prosecution of supposed offenders by the Ku Klux Klan, which is based on much the same spirit toward the negro and others who come under its condemnation as is shown by the lynchers.

Of the 28 persons lynched in 1923, 26 were negroes and two were whites; two of the former were women. Seven or one-fourth of those put to death were charged with rape or attempted rape; one of the victims was burned to death; one was put to death and then the body was burned. The charge against the one burned to death was murder. The offenses charged against the whites were: Participation in strike depredations, 1; being taken as a negro, 1. The offenses charged against the negroes were: Murder, 3; murderous assault, 2; rape, 6; attempted rape, 1; killing officer of the law, 2; wounding officer of the law, 2; no charge reported, 3; assisting man charged with rape to escape, 1; resisting posse searching for man charged with rape to escape, 1; resisting posse searching for man charged with rape, 1; cattle stealing, 1; "trying to act like white man not knowing his place," 1; insulting woman, 1; peeping in window, 1; striking man in altercation, 1. Some of these offenses were trivial and a large majority had no relation to the one crime for which the Southerner justifies lynching.

The nine states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 2; Florida, 8; Georgia, 4; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 8; Missouri, 1; Oklahoma, 1; Texas, 2; Virginia, 1. Mississippi has always a bad pre-eminence in this respect and has the largest negro population in proportion to the whites, but it seems odd to find as many lynchings in Florida, now peopled so largely by Northerners. It is a matter for gratification that the lynching spirit has died out in the North. It is not many years ago that lynchings were frequent in states like Ohio and Illinois, where the colored population is large.

There seems to be a better realization of their responsibility on the part of officers of the law than formerly when negro prisoners were surrendered to mobs without much effort at defense. While thirteen of the 28 lynched in 1923 were taken from jails or officers of the law outside, there were 46 instances reported in which the officers prevented lynchings. Four women, three of them white, were saved from the lynchers in this way Of the 46 preventions reported, 40 were in the South, showing that Southern officers realize their duty, which doubtless reflects a better public sentiment in that section. In nine cases, armed forces were used to repel the lynchers, but in the great majority the prisoners were removed or the guards strengthened.

Not much progress is being made in the punishment of lynchers. While in eight cases persons charged with complicity in lynching were brought to trial, the prosecutions involving 52 individuals, there were only two sent to the penitentiary. Lynching must be punished as a crime before it will be possible to wipe it out.

BLOOMINGTON ILL. PANT...
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 2, 1924.

50 PER CENT LESS LYNCHINGS IN 192...

Tuskegee, Ala., Jan. 1.—Lynchings in the United States decreased more than fifty percent during 1923 as compared with 1922 according to figures made public by the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute. During 1923 there were 28 lynchings as compared with 57 the preceding year, these figures showed. Twenty-six were negroes and two were whites. Two women were included.

FT. WAYNE IND. ...Gazette
Wednesday, Jan. 2, 1924

LYNCHINGS DECREASE 50 PER CENT IN U. S.

TUSKOGEE, Ala., Jan. 1.—Lynchings in the United States decreased more than fifty per cent during 1923 as compared with 1922, according to figures made public by the Tuskogee Normal and Industrial Institute. During 1923 there were 28 lynchings, as compared with 57 for the preceding year, these figures showed. Twenty-six of the number were negroes and two were whites. Two women were among the victims of mobs.

PALO ALTO, CAL. TIMES 285
DECEMBER 27, 1923

FEWER LYNCHINGS REPORTED IN LAST YEAR

Fifty Per Cent Decrease Is Shown by Statistics of Tuskegee Institute

(By Associated Press)

TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE, Ala. Dec. 27.—The total number of lynchings in the United States during the year 1923 was less than half of the number perpetrated in 1922, according to statistics compiled by the Tuskegee Institute in its department of records and research, it was announced here by Monroe N. Work, in charge of the department. The total was 28 as compared with 57 for the previous year. Thirteen of these were taken from the hands of the law; 7 from jails, and 6 from officers of the law outside jails.

The statistics show that there were 46 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Four women, 3 white and 1 colored, were among those thus saved. Six of these preventions of lynchings were in Northern states and 40 in Southern states. In 37 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In the 9 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. In 8 instances during the year persons charged with being connected with lynching mobs were brought to trial. Of the 52 persons thus before the courts only 2 were sent to the penitentiary.

Of the 28 persons lynched in 1923, 26 were negroes and 2 were whites; 2 of the former were women. Seven, or one-fourth of those put to death, were charged with rape or attempted rape; 1 of the victims was burned to death; 1 was put to death and then the body was burned. The charge against the one burned to death was murder.

The offenses charged against the whites were: Participation in strike depredations, 1; being taken as a Negro, 1. The offenses charged against the Negroes were: Murder, 3; murderous assault, 2; rape, 6; attempted rape, 1; killing officer of the law, 2; wounding officer of the law, 2; no charge reported, 3; assisting men charged with rape to escape, 1; resisting posse searching for man charged with rape, 1; cattle stealing, 1; "trying to act like white man and not knowing his place," 1; insulting woman, 1; peeping in window, 1; striking man in altercation, 1.

The nine states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 2; Florida, 8; Georgia 4; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 8; Missouri, 1; Oklahoma, 1; Texas 2; Virginia 1.

American

NEW YORK CITY

JAN 2 1924

28 Lynchings for 1923 Halves Record of 1922

TUSKEGEE, Jan. 1.—Lynchings in the United States decreased more than fifty per cent during 1923, as compared with 1922, according to figures made public by the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute.

During 1923 there were 28 lynchings. Twenty-six of the number were negroes. Two women were among the victims.

PENSACOLA, FLA., JOUR.
TUESDAY, JANUARY 1, 1924

LYNCHINGS DROP OFF 50 PER CENT

TUSKEGEE, Ala., Jan. 1.—Lynchings in the United States decreased more than 50 per cent. during 1923, as compared with 1922, according to figures made public by the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute. During 1923 there were 28 lynchings as compared with 57 for the preceding year, these figures showed. Twenty-six of the number were negroes and two were whites. Two women were among the victims of mobs.

These figures gave Mississippi and Florida eight lynchings each, Georgia four, Arkansas two, Texas two, Virginia one, Missouri one, Oklahoma one, Louisiana one. None was reported from North Carolina, South Carolina, and Alabama, according to the Tuskegee compilation.

Lynchings — 1923.
Reports on Sent Press.

Jan, — Dec.

1463

EAST ST. LOUIS, ILL. JOURNAL
Sunday, Dec. 30, 1923

28 PERSONS KILLED BY MOBS IN 1923

Tuskegee Statistician Reports Number Decreased 29 Over Lynchings Last Year

Twenty-eight persons met their deaths at the hands of lynching mobs in 1923, according to statistics compiled by Monroe N. Work in charge of the department of records and research at Tuskegee Institute, Alabama.

This figure shows a decrease of 29 from the number reported in 1922 when 57 persons were lynched. It includes 13 persons taken from the hands of the law, 7 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails.

The report also shows that there were 46 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Four women, three white and one negro, were among those thus saved. Six of these prevented lynchings were in the northern states and 40 in the southern states. In 37 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In the nine other instances ,armed forces were used to repel the would-be lynchers.

Two Lynchers to Pen.

"In eight instances during the year," to quote the report, "persons charged with being connected with lynching mobs were brought to trial. Of the 52 persons thus before the courts only two were sent to the penitentiary.

"Of the 28 persons lynched in 1923, 26 were negroes and two were whites; two of the former were women. Seven or one-fourth of those put to death were charged with rape or attempted rape; one of the victims was burned to death; one was put to death and then the body burned. The charge against the one burned to death was murder.

"The offenses charged against the whites were: participation in strike depredations, 1; being taken as a negro, 1. The offenses charged against the negroes were: murder, 3; murderous assault, 2; rape, 6; attempted rape, 1; killing officer of the law, 2; wounding officer of the law, 2; no charge reported, 3; assisting man charged with rape to escape, 1; trying to act like white man not knowing his place, 1; insulting woman, 1; peeping in window, 1; striking man in altercation, 1.

"The nine states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 2; Florida, 8; Georgia, 4; Louisana 1; Mississippi, 8; Missouri, 1; Oklahoma, 1; Texas, 2; Virginia, 1."

MAYSVILLE, KY., INDEPENDENT
Wednesday, Jan. 2, 1924

Lynchings In U. S. Show Decreas

Tuskegee, January 1.—Lynching in the United States decreased more than 50 per cent during 1923 as compared to 1922 according to figures of Tuskegee Industrial Institute. During 1923, there were 28 lynchings as compared to 57 of the year before. Twenty-six of the number were negroes and two whites.

Bismarck, N. Dak., State Record
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 27, 1923

LYNCHINGS IN 1923

The Tuskegee Norma and Industrial Institute, a school for the training of colored young men and women, each year sends out a report on the number of lynchings perpetrated in the several states. The report for this year finds that there were 28 persons lynched in 1923. This is 29 less than the number 57 for the year 1922. Thirteen of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 7 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails.

The report notes that there were 46 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Four women, 3 white and 1 colored, were among those thus saved. Six of these preventions of lynchings were in northern states and 40 in southern states. In 37 of the cases the prisoners were removed or guards augmented or other precautions taken. In the 9 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. In 8 instances during the year persons charged with being connected with lynching mobs were brought to trial. Of the 52 persons thus before the courts only two were sent to the penitentiary.

Of the 28 persons lynched in 1923, 26 were Negroes and 2 were whites; two of the former were women. Seven or one fourth of those put to death were charged with rape or attempted rape; one of the victims was burned to death; one was put to death and then the body was burned. The charge against the one burned to death was murder.

The offenses charged against the whites were: participation in strike depredations, 1; being taken as a Negro, 1 The offenses charged against the Negroes were: murded, 3; murderous assault, 2; rape, 6; attempted rape, 1; killing officer of the law, 2; wounding officer of the law, 2; no charge reported, 3; assisting man charged with rape to escape, 1; resisting posse searching for man charged with rape, 1; cattle stealing, 1; "trying to act like white man and not knowing his place," 1; insulting woman, 1; peeping in window, 1; striking man in altercation, 1.

The nine states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 2; Florida, 8; Georgia, 4; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 8; Missouri, 1; Oklahoma, 1; Texas, 2; Virginia, 1.

Anderson Ind
ANDERSON IND. HERALD
Tuesday, Jan. 1, 1924

LESS LYNCHINGS IN 1923 THAN IN 1922

Twenty-six Colored and Two White Men Victims During Year

TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE, Ala., December 31.—The following data concerning lynchings for the past year was compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research, Monroe N. Work in charge. There were 28 persons lynched in 1923. This is 29 less than the number 57 for the year 1922. Thirteen persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 7 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails.

We also find that there were 46 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Four women, 3 white and 1 colored, were among those thus saved. Six of these preventions of lynchings were in Northern States and 40 in Southern States. In 37 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In the 9 others instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. In 8 instances during the year persons charged with being connected with lynching mobs were brought to trial. Of the 52 persons thus before the courts only 2 were sent to the penitentiary.

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The nine states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows; Arkansas, 2; Florida, 8; Georgia, 4; Louisiana 1; Mississippi, 8; Missouri, 1; Oklahoma, 1; Texas, 2; Virginia, 1.

KINGSPORT, TENN., TIMES
Tuesday, Jan. 1, 1924

LYNCHINGS HAVE DECREASED

Tuskegee, Ala.—Lynchings in the United States have decreased more than 50 per cent in 1923 as compared with 1922, according to figures made public by Tuskegee Normal and Institute. The figures showed 28 lynchings in 1923 and 57 in the previous year. Twenty-six of this number were negroes and two were whites. Two women were among mob victims. The figures gave Mississippi and Florida eight each, Georgia four, Arkansas two, Texas two, Virginia one, Oklahoma one, Louisiana one. Seven of the victims were charged with attacks or attempted attacks, three with murder, two with murderous assault, two with wounding officers of the law and the rest with other offenses.

...RECORD
Thursday, ... 1924

LYNCHING RECORD FOR PAST YEAR

December 31, 1923.

Dear Sir:

I send you the following concerning lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research, Monroe N. Work, in charge. I find that there were 28 persons lynched i n1923. This is 29 less than the number fifty seven for the year 1922. Thirteen of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 7 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails.

We also find that there were 46 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Four women, 3 white and 1 colored, were among those thus saved. Six of these preventions of lynchings were in Northern States and 40 in Southern states. In 37 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In the 9 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. In 8 instances during the year persons charged with beieng connected with lynching mobs were brought to trial. Of the 52 persons thus before the courts only 2 were sent to the penitentiary.

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The offenses charged against the whites were: participation in strike depredations, 1; being taken as a Negro 1. The offenses charged against the Negroes were: murder, 3; murderous assault, 3; rape 6; attempted rape, 1; killing officer of law, 2; wounding officer of law, 2; no charge reported, 3; assisting man charged with rape to escape, 1; resisting posse searching for man charged with rape, 1; cattle stealing, 1; "trying to act like white man and not knowning his place," 1; insulting woman, 1; peeping in window, 1; striking man in altercation, 1.

The nine states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 2; Florida, 8; Georgia, 4; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 8; Missouri, 1; Oklahoma 1; Texas, 2; Virginia, 1.

Yours very truly,

R. R. Moton, Principal.

TROY (N. Y.) MORNING RECORD
January 8, 1924

LYNCHINGS DECREASE.

The report of the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute in regard to the number of lynchings during the last twelve months is most encouraging. During 1923 there were 28 lynchings as compared with 57 for the preceding year.

Lynch law has always prevailed more or less in every country in times of great popular excitement and especially in newly-settled territories, where the power of the civil government is not fully established or does not keep pace with the advance of the outposts of civilization. Thus, in 1768 we find the terms "regulating," "regulation" and "regulator" in use in the Carolinas, where illegal whippings were inflicted by the Regulators. There were simil... Regulators along the western frontier in the early days, where lynch law was perfectly well known. In fact, it was the only law effective to restrain the lawlessness of certain elements.

It should be observed, however that lynch law for "regulation" of sparsely settled territories or for times of great popular excitement is not precisely the same as the lynch law as we know it in the United States today. It was at first not mob law, as now understood, but more like an improvised, extra-legal organization of citizens to provide justice be... of the lack of legal... justice. C... mstances virtually ne... cessitated ... shment of offenders i... this way; ...erwise, they would no... have been ...unished at all and would have been free to give expression to lawless intent.

Lynch law, as we know it today is totally different, with probably very few, if any exceptions. During the Civil War and afterward lynching was practiced in the Southern States, instigated, as is generally believed, by the Ku Klux Klan. It is said that from 1870 it became an unwritten law in the South to lynch by mob rule every negro charged with rape or assault, or with the murder of a white person.

It is quite evident, therefore, that lynch law can be both desirable and terribly detestable. In any case it is dangerous practice. In the South it has become a blot on the integrity of the states, because it is not required for justice and is often hastened by prejudice. There is not one of the Southern States today that has not an orderly government and well organized judicial system. Every person accused of crime therefore should have a fair trial. Lynch law defeats that inalienable right of the citizen. Consequently lynching has been vigorously and justly denounced not only in the North but also in the South.

Fortunately, the year just passed has witnessed a notable improvement in the situation. A fifty per cent decrease in yearly lynchings is something for commendation. The South only suffers in reputation by this form of lawlessness. It should therefore continue to exert its influence to avert mob law and expedite the orderly progress of legal justice.

LOUISVILLE, KY. HERALD
Wednesday, Jan. 2, 1924

LYNCHINGS REDUCED BY FIFTY PER CENT

TUSKEGEE, ALA., Jan. 1.—Lynchings in the United States decreased more than 50 per cent during 1923 as compared with 1922, according to figures made public by the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute. During 1923 there were twenty-eight lynchings as compared with fifty-seven for the preceding year, these figures showed. Twenty-six of the number were negroes and two were whites. Two women were among the victims of mobs.

These figures gave Mississippi and Florida eight lynchings each, Georgia four, Arkansas two, Texas two, Virginia one, Missouri one, Oklahoma one, Louisiana one. None was reported from North Carolina, South Carolina and Alabama, according to the Tuskegee compilation.

The Tuskegee report says there were forty-six instances during the year in which officers of the law prevented lynchings, forty of these cases being in Southern states and six in Northern states.

Thirteen of those lynched last year were taken from the hands of the law, the report states, seven from jails and six from officers outside of jails. Seven of the victims were charged with attack or attempted attack, three with murder, two with murderous assault, two for wounding an officer of the law, and the rest with other offenses.

TIFFIN, O., ADVERTISER
Thursday, Dec. 27, 1923

Data compiled by the Tuskegee Institute show that the number of lynchings in this country during the past year was only 28 the number having decreased almost exactly fifty per cent from the total of the previous year. This is an excellent showing, if the trend is due to a normal reaction against this, one of the greatest of all crimes because it is a crime of society instead of the individual. If the sentiment against lynchings is growing and if the past year is an illustration of its rapid growth, it ought not to be many years before the rule of unlicensed mob law in this country will be as conspicuous for its absence as it is in many countries where lynching is unknown. There may however be a question whether circumstances other than sentiment against lynch law have not had something to do with the decrease of this class of crime. It is possible that the list of atrocious crimes of individuals, such as generally excite lynch law, has been far less frequent during the same period. Then again it is possible that there has been a more rigid enforcement of our criminal laws. If the latter is the case then the explanation for the decrease in lynchings probably lies in that direction. Nothing would do more to deter the will of the mob than the knowledge that the arm of constituted law is long and unerring. This only can be brought about by the creation of a strong sentiment for the strict enforcement of organized law instead of loosing unbridled, the will of the mob.

DELAND FLA NEWS
TUESDAY, JANUARY 1, 1924

TWENTY-EIGHT WERE LYNCHED IN PAST YEAR

Tuskegee Institute Finds 29 Less Lynchings Than in Previous Year

Tuskegee Institute, Ala., Jan. 1.—Principal R. R. Moton of Tuskegee Institute has sent out the following concerning lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the department of records and research, Monroe N. Work in charge: There were 28 persons lynched in 1923. This is 29 less than the number 57 for the year 1922. Thirteen of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 7 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails.

There were 46 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Four women, 3 white and 1 colored, were among those thus saved. Six of these preventions of lynchings were in Northern States and 40 in Southern States. In 37 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 9 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. In 8 instances during the year persons charged with being connected with lynching mobs were brought to trial. Of the 52 persons thus before the courts only 2 were sent to the penitentiary.

Of the 28 persons lynched in 1923, 26 were Negroes and 2 were Whites; two of the former were women, 7 or one fourth of those put to death were charged with rape or attempted rape; one of the victims was burned to death; one was put to death and then the body was burned. The charge against the one burned to death was murder.

The offenses charged against the whites were: participation in strike depredations, 1; being taken as a negro, 1. The offenses charged against the negroes were: murder, 3; murderous assault, 2; rape, 6; attempted rape, 1; killing officer of the law, 2; wounding officer of the law, 2; no charge reported, 3; assisting man charged with rape to escape, 1; resisting posse searching for man charged with rape, 1; cattle stealing, 1; "trying to act like white man and not knowing his place." 1; insulting woman, 1; peeping in window, 1; striking man in altercation 1.

The nine states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 2; Florida 8; Georgia, 4; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 8; Missouri, 1; Oklahoma, 1; Texas, 2; Virginia, 1.

Lynchings—1923.
Reports on Sent Press
Jan.—June.
F 8 (2)

The Lynching Record for the Past Six Months.

Tuskegee Institute, founded by Booker T. Washington, has a Department of Records and Research which is in charge of Monroe N. Work. We do not known how extensive is the research conducted by the department, but twice each year it issues a statement which purports to give an accurate record of the lynchings for the previous six months and a comparison of that record with those of the corresponding period of the two years before.

The record for the first six months of this year has just been issued. The states in which lynchings have occurred are all what we popularly call southern states, viz: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 7; Georgia, 2; Lousiana, 1; Mississippi, 2; Missouri, 1; and Texas, 1. We have not any of the previous records at hand, but our recollection is that they sometimes took in a few other states, showing that while lynching is principally "a southern institution", it is not exclusively so.

An encouraging feature in the present report is that the number of lynchings is smaller than during the first half of either 1921 or 1922. This year the total numbe. has been 15, as compared with 30 for last year and 36 for year before last. Let us hope that they will continue to decrease at even a larger ratio until soon they will be unknown. Public sentiment in the South against lynching is undoubtedly growing, as is seen in the increasing number of arrests and prosecutions of alleged lynchers and in the favor with which the propaganda of the Southern Inter-racial Commission is received.

It goes without saying that nearly all of those executed were negroes. Only two were whites. Only one of those put to death was charged with rape, the crime with which we have been accustomed to associate mob violence. The other offences charged were: murder, 2; killing officer of the law, 2; wounding officer of the law, 2; no charge reported, 2; assisting man charged with rape to escape, 1; trying to pass for white, 1; resisting posse searching for man charged with rape, 1; participating in depredations connected with railroad strike, 1; cattle stealing, 1; trying to act like white man and not knowing his place, 1.

Notice the wide range of offences in the above list and how small some of them were to be followed by the execution of those guilty of them. Many good people have been disposed to uphold the summary execution of rapists, although, in our judgment, taking the law into one's own hand and inflicting the death penalty unless it be in very exceptional cases is nothing short of murder. It is a violation of the sixth commandment, which says, "Thou shalt not kill". But on the supposition that lynching for this offense is justifiable, the danger of mob law is seen in the extension of the punishment to cases, as in the above list, for which it should not be inflicted. Like other evils the tendency is to go from bad to worse until the offences in some cases for which this extreme penalty is inflicted are comparatively trivial. There have been illegal practices in this country, such as duelling, which a generation ago were upheld by public sentiment but are now happily extinct. Public sentiment has so completely changed that scarcely a voice anywhere is raised in advocacy of them. We believe the time is not far distant when the same will be true of lynching. God speed the day!

PROVIDENCE JOURNAL
JULY 6, 1923

FEWER LYNCHINGS

The record of lynchings in the United States during the first six months of 1923 is creditable only in comparison with what has gone before. There is no justification for these offences against law and order, though it is gratifying to find that in the half year ending on June thirtieth there were only fifteen of them, a decrease of fifteen for the corresponding period in 1922. That, in turn, was six less than the number in the first six months of 1921.

It is generally supposed that lynchings are the result of the assaults, actual or alleged, of colored men on white women. But figures sent out from the Tuskegee Institute show that two of the persons lynched were whites, leaving only thirteen colored persons who suffered this fate—and of these colored victims one was a woman. Only twelve male negroes, therefore, were summarily put to death, the offences charged against them being as follows:

"Rape, 1; murder, 2; killing officer of the law, 2; wounding officer of the law, 2; no charge reported, 2; assisting man charged with rape to escape, 1; trying to pass for white, 1; resisting posse searching for man charged with rape, 1; participating in depredations connected with railroad strike, 1; cattle stealing, 1; trying to act like white man and not knowing his place, 1."

The States in which the lynchings occurred are with a single exception all in the South. Florida, where there was a special outbreak of racial savagery, reported 7, Arkansas 1, Georgia 2, Louisiana 1, Mississippi, 2, Missouri 1 and Texas 1. There is so notable a gain for orderly justice in these figures that we may confidently hope for a further improvement during the last six months of the year. It will be a great day for American civilization when such a period passes without a mob anywhere taking the law into its own hands.

Macon, Ga. TELEGRAPH
AUG 26 1923

DECLINE IN LYNCHING

The current issue of Collier's congratulates the United States upon the fact that from January 1st to July 1st, 1923, only half the lynchings occurred in the United States that occurred in the same period in 1922. Of the 15 lynchings that took place during this period, two were of white men, twelve were of Negro men and one was a Negro woman. Only one lynching took place in each of the following States: Arkansas, Louisiana, Missouri and Texas. Two occurred in Mississippi, and seven in Georgia. This gives Georgia about half the lynchings in the Southern States, a very unenviable record. Add to this record, the two lynchings that recently took place in the neighborhood of Macon and Georgia's total mounts to nine. No wonder the outside world looks upon us with suspicion and fear.

Of course, the matter of first importance is for everybody to unite to stop the things that provoke lynchings, and the fact that the lynched are almost invariably those who have not been taught the things that everyone should know and that the lynchers have not been taught much that everyone should know, indicates very clearly that right education is the human remedy. North Carolina, that spends over a million dollars a year on higher Negro education, is not in the lynching list, and Georgia, that spends only $15,000, is at the top. These facts speak too loudly for extensive comment.

BIRMINGHAM, ALA., NEWS
JUL 3 1923
1473

Great Improvement Noted In Lynching Record In South: Alabama Not On List.

Gradually the better sentiment of the law-abiding people of the South is beginning to assert itself, and lynching—that is, murder committed by a mob—has suffered a very severe decline. In order to study the record, with relation to negroes, and in effort to find out the main causes for negroes offending to such extent that they should be put to death by mobs, Booker T. Washington many years ago began keeping statistics at Tuskegee. The practice has been kept up by his successor, Dr. Moton, and these data have generally been accepted as being correct. It was the idea of Booker Washington to ascertain the causes of friction and trouble, and concentrate the efforts of negro leaders themselves upon their race in effort to eliminate such crimes or causes.

For the first six months of the present year the lynching record is much below that of last year and the year before. As given in the summary by Dr. Moton it is 15 for the whole South—just half of the number for the first six months of 1922, and 21 less than for the same period in 1921. The statement goes on to say:

> Of those lynched, 2 were whites and 13 were negroes. One of the latter was a woman. One of those put to death was charged with the crime of rape. The other offenses charged were: Murder, 2; killing officer of the law, 2; wounding officer of the law, 2; no charge reported, 2; assisting man charged with rape to escape, 1; trying to pass for white, 1; resisting posse searching for man charged with rape, 1; participating in depredations connected with railroad strike, 1; cattle stealing, 1; trying to act like white man and not knowing his place, 1.
>
> The States in which lynchings occurred and the number in each State are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 7; Georgia, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 2; Missouri, 1; Texas, 1.

It is a matter of congratulation that Alabama does not show up on this roll of violence. It is also significant that of the whole number of mob-inflicted deaths, only one was for the cause which is generally held to be the main excuse for lynching; and two were for collateral offenses—assisting a rapist to escape, and resisting a posse searching for a man charged with this offense. Some of the other causes assigned are trivial; it is sickening to contemplate a record of human beings put to death upon such slight provocations. It all goes to show that disregard for law grows; and where lynching is condoned or apologized for in one instance, it becomes easier to reconcile the public mind to it in another and under less provocation.

The law does function thoroughly and effectively when the people are upholders of the law: and only through the observance of the law and a jealous regard for it will we progress. It is sincerely to be hoped that Alabama can maintain her record unstained during the remainder of the year, and say to the world that she is a law-abiding State, and her people are of that high type who bow in obedience to the law, and uphold the regularly constituted authorities and courts.

Tuscaloosa Ala Record

JUL 10 1923

Lynchings Decrease

Mobile, Ala., July 10.—In the first six months of 1923, ending June 30, there were fifteen lynchings in the United States, according to the records compiled by the Tuskegee, Ala., Normal and Industrial Institute. This is fifteen less than the number thirty, for the first six months of 1922 and 21 less than the number, 36, for the first six months of 1921.

Of those lynched, two were whites and thirteen negroes. One of the latter was a woman. One of those put to death was charged with the crime of rape. The other offenses charged were, murder 3; killing officer of the law 2; wounding officer of the law 2; no charge reported 2; assisting man charged with rape to escape 1; trying to pass for white 1; resisting posse searching for man charged with rape 1; participating in depredations connected with railroad strike 1; cattle stealing 1; trying to act like white man and not knowing his place 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows:

Arkansas 1; Florida 7; Georgia 2; Louisiana 1; Mississippi 2; Missouri 1; Texas 1.

Reidsville N.C.

JUL 4 1923

Daily

LYNCHNGS 15 LESS IN 1923 THAN IN 1922

Mobile, Ala., July 2.—In the first six months of 1923, ending June 30, there were 15 lynchings in the United States according to the records compiled by the Tuskegee normal and industrial institute. This is 15 less than the number (30), for the first six months of 1922, and 21 less than the number (36) for the first six months of 1921.

Of those lynched, two were whites and 13 negroes. One of the latter was a woman. One of these put to death was charged with the crime of rape. The other offenses charged were: Murder 2, killing officer of the law 2; wounding officer of the law 2; no charge reported 2. asssiting man charged with rape to escape 1; trying to pass for white 1; resisting posse searching for man charged with rape 1. participating in depredations connected with railroad strike 1; cattle stealing 1; trying to act like white man and not knowing his place 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows:

Arkansas 1; Florida 7; Georgia 2; Mississippi 2: Missouri 1; Texas 1.

Miami Fla Herald

JUL 4 - 1923

Fewer Lynchings.

LYNCHINGS in the United States show a decrease in number for the first six months over the corresponding period of 1922. There were only fifteen lynchings this year, as compared with thirty during the first six months of last year, and thirty-six for the same period in 1921. This is, of course, encouraging, and yet the figures are entirely too high.

Of those lynched, two were whites and thirteen were negroes. One of the latter was a woman. One of those put to death was charged with the crime of rape. The other offenses charged were: Murder, 2; killing officer of the law, 2; wounding officer of the law, 2; no charge reported, 2; assisting man charged with rape to escape, 1; trying to pass for white, 1; resisting posse searching for man charged with rape, 1; participating in depredations connected with railroad strike, 1; cattle stealing, 1; trying to act like white man and not knowing his place, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 7; Georgia, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 2; Missouri, 1, and Texas, 1.

Lynchings - 1923.
Reports on Sent Press.

Jan. - Dec.

1474

MANCHESTER, TL , TIMES
Thursday, Jan. 3. 1924

Lynching Parties Held During the Past Year

The following concerning lynchings for the past year was compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research.

There were 28 persons lynched in 1923. This is 29 less than the number 57 for the year 1922. Thirteen of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 7 from pails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails.

There were 46 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Four women, 3 white and 1 colored, were among those thus saved. Six of these preventions of lynchings were in Northern States and 40 in Southern States. In 37 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In the 9 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. In 8 instances during the year persons charged with being connected with lunchings were brought to trial. Of the 52 persons thus before the courts only 2 were sent to the penitentiary.

Of the 28 persons lynched in 1923, 26 were Negroes and 2 were whites; two of the former were women. 7 or one-fourth of those put to death were charged with rape or attempted rape; one of the victims was burned to death; one was put to death and then the body was burned. The charge against the one burned to death was murder.

The offenses charged against the whites were: participation in strike depredations, 1; being taken as a Negro, 1. The offenses charged against the Negroes were: murder, 3; murderous assault, 2; rape, 6; attempted rape, 1; killing officer of the law 2; wounding officer of the law, 2; no charge reported, 3; assisting man charged with rape to escape, 1; resisting posse searching for man charged with rape, 1; cattle stealing, 1; "trying to act like white white man and not knowing his place," 1; insulting woman, 1; peeping in window, 1; striking man in altercation, 1.

The 9 states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 2; Florida, 8; Georgia, 4; Louisiana 1; Mississippi 8; Missouri, 1; Oklahoma, 1; Texas 2; Virginia, 1.

BUCYRUS, O. FORUM

DEC 27 1923

FEWER LYNCHING IN YEAR 1923

Acording to a report by the department of Records and Research of Tuskegee Institute there were 28 persons lynched in 1923. That is 29 ess than the number, 57, for the year 1922. Thirteen of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 7 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails.

These investigations have also found that there were 46 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynching. Four women, 3 white and 1 colored, were among those saved.

Of the 28 persons lynched in 1923, 26 were Negroes and 2 were whites; two of the former were women.

Among the offenses charged against the negroes was "trying to act like white men and not knowing his place". The number in each state are, Arkansas 2; Florida, 8; Geo- Missouri, 1; Oklahoma, 1; Texas, 2; rgia, 4; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 8; Virginia, 1.

BRISTOL, TENN., HER.-COUR.
Sunday, Jan. 6, 1924

NO LYNCHINGS

Nashville, Tenn. Jan. 6. — There were no lynchings in Tennessee during 1922, according to statistics announced by Tuskegee Institute.

BRISTOL, TENN. HER.-COUR
Sunday, Dec. 30, 1923

Improved Lynching Record.

Lynching statistics for the last year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute at Tuskegee, Alabama, show a gratifying improvement in the record of mob lawlessness.

The number of persons lynched in 1922 was fifty-seven, while the number lynched in 1923 was twenty-eight, or not quite half the number lynched in 1922. Of the twenty-eight persons lynched in 1923, twenty-six were Negroes and two were whites, two of the Negroes being women.

While twenty-eight persons were lynched during this year, forty-six attempted lynchings were prevented. Six of these preventions of lynchings were in Northern States and forty in Southern States. In thirty-seven of the cases the prisoners were removed or guards augmented or other precautions taken, while in the nine other instances armed force was used to repel the mobs.

The Nine States in which lynchings occurred and the number of each are given: Arkansas, two; Florida, eight; Georgia, four; Louisiana, one; Mississippi, eight; Missouri, 1; Oklahoma, one; Texas, two; Virginia, one. So it is seen that Georgia, which usually leads in the number of lynchings, took second place this year.

Not only officers of the law with prisoners in their charge but the courts seem to have given the mobs more trouble this year. In eight instances during the year persons charged with being connected with lynchings were brought to trial. The number of persons thus arraigned was fifty-two, but only two were sent to the penitentiary.

The improvement in the lynching record is encouraging, but the record still is disgraceful. There is room for further improvement. Mob lawless can and should be wiped out.

SANTA BARBARA, CAL., NEWS
JANUARY 3, 1924

LYNCHINGS SHOW BIG INCREASE

FIGURES compiled by the research department of Tuskegee Institute show that lynchings in 1923 decreased fifty per cent over the previous year. Mob law took only twenty eight lives as compared with fifty seven the previous year.

These lynchings took place in nine states, all in the south while in forty six instances, the officers of the law defied the mobs and prevented lynchings.

While these figures are not conclusive evidence of a change in sentiment against mob law, they are surely an indication that the people of the country are less inclined to lawless methods than formerly.

During the past three years there was a campaign for Federal legislation on the subject of lynching which nearly reached a vote in the last session of Congress.

The figures quoted above would indicate that an awakened public sentiment is doing what it is more than doubtful if a Federal statute could accomplish.

If officers of the law will do their duty fearlessly, there will be a few lynchings. It is only in rare instances that mobs care to risk real conflict with determined officers.

And officrs who feel that they have back of them the support of the people are thrice armed to resist mobs or other violations of the law. It is a sign of better times that in one year there should be a reduction of one half in the lawless executions but it's a reflection on the citizenship of the country that there should be in a year more than two score mob murders.

ST PETERSBURG FLA INDP
TUESDAY, JANUARY 1, 1924

LYNCHING RECORD FOR YEAR SHOWS DECREASE FROM 1922

Tuskegee, Ala., Jan. 1.—Lynchings in the United States decreased more than 50 per cent during 1923 as compared with 1922, according to figures made public by the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial institute. During 1923 there were 28 lynchings as compared with 57 for the preceding year, these figures showed. Twenty-six of the number were negroes and two whites. Two women were among the victims of mobs.

These figures gave Mississippi and Florida eight lynchings each; Georgia four; Arkansas and Texas two each; Virginia one; Missouri one; Oklahoma one; Louisiana one. None were reported from North Carolina, South Carolina or Alabama, according to the Tuskegee compilation.

The Tuskegee report stated there were 46 instances during the year in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Forty of these cases were in southern states and six in northern states.

Thirteen of those lynched last year were taken from the hands of the law, the report stated seven from jails and six from officers outside of jails. Seven of the victims were charged with attack or attempted attack, three with murder, two with murderous assault, two with wounding an officer of the law, and the rest with other offenses.

QUINCY, ILL., WHIG-JOURNAL
Wednesday, Jan. 2, 1924

LYNCHINGS IN U. S. DECREASE

TUSKOGEE, Ala., Jan. 1.—Lynchings in the United States decreased more than 50 per cent during 1923 as compared with 1922, according to figures made public by the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial institute. During 1923 there were 28 lynchings as compared with 57 the preceeding year, these figures show. Twenty-six were Negroes and two were whites. Two women were included.

DAVENPORT, IA., TIMES
Tuesday, Jan. 1, 1924

Had Fewer Lynchings In U. S. in Past Year

[Associated Press Leased Wire]

TUSKEGEE, Ala., Jan. 1.—Lynchings in the United States decreased more than 50 per cent during 1923 as compared with 1922 according to figures made public by the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute.

During 1923 there were 28 lynchings as compared with 57 the preceding year, these figures show. Twenty-six were negroes and two were whites. Two women were included.

Thursday, January 3, 1924

Barbaras Lynch Law Still Practiced In Southern States-----Women and Men Both Meet Fate

By R. R. MOTON, Principal
Tuskegee Institute, Alabama, Dec. 31,1923.

I send you the following concerning lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research, Monroe N. Work in charge. I find that there were 28 persons lynched in 1923. This is 29 less than the number 57 for the year 1922. Thirteen of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 7 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails.

We also find that there were 46 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Four women, 3 white and 1 colored, were among those thus saved. Six of these preventions of lynchings were in Northern States and 40 in Southern States. In 37 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In the 9 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. In 8 instances during the year persons charged with being connected with lynching mobs were brought to trial. Of the 52 persons thus before the courts only 2 were sent to the penitentiary.

Of the 28 persons lynched in 1923, 26 were Negroes and 2 were whites; two of the former were women, 7 or one-fourth of those put to death were charged with rape or attempted rape; one of the victims was burned to death; one was put to death and then the body was burned. The charge against the one burned to death was murder.

The offenses charged against the whites were: Participation in strike depredations, 1; being taken as a Negro, 1. The offenses charged against the Negroes were: Murder, 3; murderous assault, 2; rape, 6; attempted rape, 1; killing officer of the law, 2; wounding officer of the law, 2; no charge reported, 3; assisting man charged with rape to escape, 1; resisting posse searching for man charged with rape, 1; cattle stealing, 1; "trying to act like white man and not knowing his place," 1; insulting woman, 1; peeping in window, 1; striking man in altercation, 1.

The nine states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 2; Florida, 8; Georgia, 4; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 8; Missouri, 1; Oklahoma, 1; Texas, 2; Virginia, 1.

SANTA ANA, CAL., REGISTER
JANUARY 1, 1924

28 LYNCHED IN 1923, REPORT DECLARES

TUSKEGEE, Ala., Jan. 1.—The Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute has compiled and given out the following concerning lynchings for the past year:

There were twenty-eight persons lynched in 1923. This is twenty-nine less than the number for the year 1922. Thirteen of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, seven from jails and six from officers of the law outside of jails.

"We also find that there were forty-six instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Four women, three white and one colored, were among those thus saved. Six of these preventions of lynchings were in Northern states and forty in Southern states. In thirty-seven of the cases the prisoners were removed the guards augumented or other precautions taken. In the nine other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. In eight instances during the year persons charged with being connected with lynching mobs were brought to trial. Of the fifty-two persons thus before the courts only two were sent to the penitentiary.

"Of the twenty-eight persons lynched in 1923, twenty-six were negroes and two were whites; two of the former were women. Seven or one fourth of those put to death were charged with rape or attempted rape; one of the victims was burned to death; one was put to death and then the body was burned. The charge against the one burned to death was murder.

"The offenses charged against the whites were: participation in strike depredations, one; being taken as a negro, one. The offenses charged against the negroes were: murder, three; murderous assault, two; rape, six; attempted rape, one; killing officer of the law, two; wounding officer of the law, two; no charge reported three; assisting man charged with rape to escape, one; resisting posse searching for man charged with rape, one; cattle stealing, one; "trying to act like white man and not knowing his place," one; insulting woman, one; peeping in window, one; striking man in altercation, one.

The nine states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows; Arkansas, two; Florida, eight; Georgia four; Lousiana, one; Mississippi eight; Missouri, one; Oklahoma one; Texas, two; Virginia, one.

NEW YORK CITY TRIBUNE
JANUARY 2, 1924

The War Against Lynchings

At the beginning of the negro migration "The Columbia (S. C.) State" remarked that when the farmers began to understand that every outburst of mob violence would be followed by the exodus of thousands of negro laborers to the North a tide of public opinion against lynchings would set in. Whether public opinion and self-interest have been aroused, or for whatever reason, the lynchings of 1923 were less than half as many as those of 1922 according to the record kept by Tuskegee Institute.

Last year 28 persons (26 negroes) were lynched, as against 57 in 1922. The cause of this striking reduction may be related to the fact of the negro migration and perhaps also to the attempt at Federal legislation against lynching which failed through a filibuster in the Senate. The threat of Federal interference with mob law may be having a deterrent effect.

But the real cure for lynching is an aroused public sentiment, of which there are hopeful indications. In 48 instances in 1923 officers of the law prevented lynchings; only 6 of these in the North. The obligation to protect prisoners by adequate guard and by force of arms, if necessary, is now fully recognized and acted upon in every state. In 13 cases the custodians failed to safeguard their charges, but it is no onger customary to surrender victims tamely to a lynching bee.

It will not be possible entirely to stamp out mob murder as an institution until punishment follows the crime. Of the 52 persons brought to trial last year in connection with lynchings, only two were sent to jail. It is still safe to be mixed up in a lynching affair when juries have not the courage or the will to convict and public sentiment supports them.

S. F. CALL
JANUARY 1, 1924

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Lynchings in U. S. 90 Decrease 50 Pct.

TUSKEGEE, Ala., Jan. 1.—Lynchings in the United States decreased more than 50 per cent during 1923 as compared with 1922, according to figures made public by the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute. During 1923 there were twenty-eight lynchings, as compared with fifty-seven for the preceding year, these figures showed. Twenty-six of the number were negroes and two were whites. Two women were among the victims of mobs.

CLEVELAND, TENN., HERALD
Friday, Jan. 4, 1924

LARGE DECREASE IN LYNCHINGS 1923

The following statistics concerning lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research Monroe N. Work in charge. There were 28 persons lynched in 1923. This is 29 less than the number 57 for the year 1922. Thirteen of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 7 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails.

We also find that there were 46 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Four women, 3 white and 1 colored, were among those thus saved. Six of these preventions of lynchings were in Northern States and 40 in Southern states. In 37 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In the 9 other instances, armed forces was used to repel the would-be lynchers. In 8 instances during the year persons charged with being connected with lynching mobs were brought to trial. Of the 52 persons thus before the courts only 2 were sent to the penitentiary.

Of the 28 persons lynched in 1923, 26 were Negroes and 2 were whites; two of the former were women. Seven or one fourth of those put to death were charged with rape or attempted rape; one of the victims was burned to death; one was put to death and then the body was burned. The charge against the one burned to death was murder.

The offenses charged against the whites were: participation in strike depredations, 1; being taken as a negro, 1. The offenses charged against the negroes were: murder, 3; murderous assault, 2; rape, 6; attempted rape, 1; killing officer of the law, 2; wounding officer of the law, 2; no charge reported, 3; assisting man charged with rape to escape, 1; resisting posse searching for man charged with rape,1; cattle stealing, 1; "trying to act like white man and not knowing his place," 1; insulting woman, 1; peeping in window, 1; striking man in altercation, 1.

The nine states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 2; Florida, 8; Georgia, 4; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 8; Missouri, 1; Oklahoma 1; Texas, 2; Virginia, 1.

Lynchings—1923.
Reports on; Sent Press.

Jan.—Dec.

1475

Atlanta, Ga. Christian Index
Jan. 3, 1924

LYNCHING RECORD OF 1923.

I send you the following concerning lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research, Monroe N. Work in charge. I find that there were 28 persons lynched in 1923. This is 29 less than the number 57 for the year 1922. Thirteen of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 7 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails.

We also find that there were 46 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Four women, 3 white and 1 colored, were among those thus saved. Six of these preventions of lynchings were in Northern states and 40 in Southern states. In 37 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In the 9 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. In 8 instances during the year persons charged with being connected with lynching mobs were brought to trial. Of the 52 persons thus before the courts only 2 were sent to the penitentiary.

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The nine states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 2; Florida, 8; Georgia, 4; Louisiana 1; Mississippi, 8; Missouri, 1; Oklahoma, 1; Texas, 2; Virginia, 1.

Yours very truly,
R. R. Moton,
Principal.

Athens, Ga. Herald
JAN 2 - 1924

LYNCHINGS IN 1923 BELOW 1922 MARK

TUSKEGEE, Ala.—There were 29 less persons lynched in the U. S. in 1923 than in 1922. This has been established by the record kept here by Monroe N. Work.

It is found there were 28 persons lynched in 1923. This is 29 less than the number 57 for the year 2922. Thirteen of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 7 from jails and 6 from officers of the law—outside of jails.

It is also found that there were 46 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Four women, 3 white and 1 colored, were among those thus saved. Six of these preventions of lynchings were i nnorthern states and 40 in southern states. In 37 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In the 9 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. In 8 instances during the year persons charged with being connected with lynching mobs were brought to trial. Of these 52 persons thus before the courts only 2 were sent to the penitentiary.

Of the 28 persons lynched in 1923, 26 were negroes and 2 were whites; two of the former were women. Seven or one fourth of those put to death were charged with rape or attempted rape; one of the victims was burned to death and then the body burned. The charge against the one burned to death was murder. The charge against the one burned to death was murder.

The offences charged against the whites were: participation in strike depredations, 1; being taken as a negro, 1. The offense charged against the negroes were murder, 3; murderous assault, 2; rape, 6; attempted rape, 1; killing officer of the law, 2; wounding officer of the law, 2; no charge reported, 3; assisting man charged with rape, to escape, 1; resisting posse searching for man charged with rape, 1; cattle stealing, 1; insulting woman, 1; peeping in window, 1; striking man in altercation 1.

The nine states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each states are as follows: Arkansas, 2; Florida, 8; Georgia, 4; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 8; Missouri, 1; Oklahoma, 1; Texas, 2; Virginia, 1.

SCHENECTADY, N. Y. STAR
JANUARY 2, 1924

FEWER LYNCHINGS IN 1923

The annual report from Tuskeegee Institute on lynchings during 1923 has been made by R. R. Moton, principal of the institute which Booker T. Washington made famous. In his report, Mr. Moton says.

"I find that there were 28 persons lynched in 1923. This is 29 less than the number 57 for the year 1922. Thirteen of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 7 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails.

"We also find that there were 46 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Four women, 3 white and 1 colored, were among those thus saved. Six of these preventions of lynchings were in northern states and 40 in southern states. In 37 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In the 9 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. In 8 instances during the year persons charged with being connected with lynching mobs were brought to trial. Of the 52 persons thus before the courts only 2 were sent to the penitentiary.

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"The offenses charged against the whites were: Participation in strike depredations, 1; being taken as a negro, 1. The offenses charged against the negroes were: Murder, 3; murderous assault, 2; rape, 6; attempted rape, 1; killing officer of the law, 2; wounding officer of the law, 2; no charge reported, 3; assisting man charged with rape to escape, 1; resisting posse searching for man charged with rape, 1; cattle stealing, 1; "trying to act like white man and not knowing his place," 1; insulting woman, 1; peeping in window, 1; striking man in altercation, 1.

"The nine states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 2; Florida, 8; Georgia, 4; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 8; Missouri, 1; Oklahoma, 1; Texas, 2; Virginia, 1."

Kingston, N. C.
Press
JAN 1 - 1924

ONLY 28 PERSONS LYNCHED IN '23; NONE THIS STATE

Two Whites and 26 Negroes — Officers Save Many — Florida and Mississippi Outdo Georgia Two to One

(By the United Press)

Tuskegee, Ala., Jan. 1.—The following concerning lynchings for the past year was compiled by Tuskegee Institute's department of records and research, Monroe N. Work in charge. There were 28 persons lynched in 1923. This is 29 less than the number 57 for the year 1922. Thirteen of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 7 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. There were 46 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Four women, 3 white and 1 colored, were among those thus saved. Six of these preventions of lynchings were in Northern states and 40 in Southern states. Of the 28 persons lynched in 1923, 26 were negroes and 2 were whites; two of the former were women. Seven or one-fourth of those put to death were charged with rape or attempted rape; one of the victims was burned to death; one was put to death and then the body was burned. Th charge against the one burned to death was murder.

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The nine states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each State are as follows: Arkansas, 2; Florida, 8; Georgia, 4; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 8; Missouri, 1; Oklahoma, 1; Texas, 2; Virginia, 1.

Dublin, Ga. Herald
JAN 1 - 1924

Smaller Record for Lynchings in 1923 Reported in Country

Tuskegee, Ala., Jan. 1.—There were 28 persons lynched in 1923. This is 29 less than the number 57 for the year 1922. Thirteen of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 7 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails.

There were 46 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Four women, 3 white and 1 colored, were among those thus saved. Six of these preventions of lynchings were in Northern states and 40 in Southern states. In 37 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In the 9 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. In 8 instances during the year persons charged with being connected with lynching mobs were brought to trial. Of the 52 persons thus before the courts only 2 were sent to the peni-

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The nine states in which lynching occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 2; Florida, 8; Georgia, 4; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 8; Missouri, 1; Oklahoma, 1; Texas, 2 Virginia 1.

TULLAHOMA, TENN., GUARDIAN
January 11, 1924

Lynching Figures for the Past Year

The following concerning lynchings for the past year was compiled by Tuskegee Institute

There were 28 persons lynched in 1923. This is 29 less than the number 57 for the year 1922. Thirteen of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 7 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails.

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The offenses charged against the whites were: participation in strike depredations, 1; being taken as a negro, 1. The offenses charged against the Negroes were: murder, 3; murderous assault, 2; rape, 6; attempted rape, 1; killing officer of the law 2; wounding officer of the lay, 2; no charge reported, 3; assisting man charged with rape to escape, 1; resisting posse searching for man charged with rape, 1; cattle stealing, 1; "trying to act like white white man and not knowing his place," 1; insulting woman, 1; peeping in window, 1; striking man in altercation, 1.

The 9 states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows. Arkansas, 2; Florida 8; Georgia, 4; Louisiana 1; Mississippi 8; Missouri, 1; Oklahoma, 1; Texas 2; Vriginia, 1.

TACOMA, WASH. TRIBUNE

JAN 2 - 1924

LYNCHINGS FALL FIFTY PER CENT

Comparative Record for 1923 and 1922 Is Made Public

TWENTY-EIGHT DURING YEAR

Mississippi and Florida Placed Ahead With Four Each

TUSKEGEE, Ala., Jan. 1—Lynchings in the United States decreased more than 50 per cent during 1923 as compared with 1922, according to figures made public by the Tuskegee Normal Industrial Institute. During 1923 there were twenty-eight lynchings as compared with fifty-seven for the preceding year, these figures showed. Twenty-six of the number were negroes and two whites. Two women were among the victims of the mobs.

These figures gave Mississippi and Florida eight lynchings each, Georgia four; Arkansas two; Texas two; Virginia one; Missouri one; Oklahoma one; Louisiana one. None were reported from North Carolina, South Carolina or Alabama, according to the Tuskegee compilation.

The Tuskegee report says there were forty-six instances during the year in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Forty of these cases were in Southern states and six in Northern states.

Thirteen of those lynched last year were taken from the hands of the law, the report states, seven from jails and six from offices outside the jails. Seven of the victims were charged with attack or attempted attack, three with murder, two with murderous assault, two for wounding an officer of the law and the rest with other offenses.

Andalusia, Ala. Star

JAN 2 - 1924

28 PERSONS WERE LYNCHED IN 1923 RESEARCH SHOWS

(By Associated Press)

TUSKEGEE, Ala., Dec. 31—Lynchings in the United State sdecreased more than 100 per cent during 1923 as compared with the record of 1922, according to figures complied and Industrial Institute. During 1923, lynchings numbered 28 as compared with 57 for the year 1922, the statement announced.

Alabama failed to register a single lynching.

Mississippi and Florida led in unmber of lynchings with eight each, the report found. Seven other states report lynchings as follows: Georgia 4, Arkansas 2, Texas 2, Virginia 1, Missouri 1, Oklahoma 1 and Louisiana 1.

Every lynching occurring during the year was in a southern state, it is found according to the report with twenty-six of the number negroes and two whites. Two women were among the victims of mobs.

The report of Dr. Noton further shows that there were 46 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings, forty of these cases being in southern states and six in northern states.

Thirteen of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law seven of the number fromj ails and six from officers out-side of jai l,stl six from officers out-side of jails, it is said.

VINITA, OKLA., JOURNAL
JANUARY 2. 1924

LYNCHINGS ARE ON DECREASE

TU[illegible]EE, Ala., Jan. 1.—Lynchings in the United States decreased more than 50 per cent during 1923 as compared with 1922, according to figures made publi[illegible] Institute. During 1923 there [illegible] compared wit[illegible] year, these [illegible] six of [illegible]

two were whites. Two women were among the victims of the mobs.

These figures gave Mississippi and Florida eight lynchings each, Georgia 4, Arkansas 2, Texas 2, Virginia 1, Missouri 1, Oklahoma 1, Louisiana 1. None were reported from North Carolina, South Carolina and Alabama, according to the compilation.

BANGOR, ME. COMMERCIAL
JANUARY 3, 1924

Reduction of Lynchings

The year just passed has been marked by a great reduction in the number of lynchings, 28 persons, all but two negroes, being lynched in 1923 as compared with 57 in 1922 and the 1922 record was very similar to that of previous years. There are probably two main reasons for the reduction in lynchings, one the agitation for a federal law, the other the migration of the negroes.

Evidently officials in southern states have experienced a change of mind regarding lynchings for 48 such attempts last year were balked by the action of officials. Previously the officials as a rule did not interfere. This change of front on the part of the authorities must be explained by a change in public sentiment and it is probable that the latter has been occasioned by the great migration of negroes from the southern states, a migration that is regarded as largely due to the ill treatment. The exodus of the colored people has made the labor question a very serious one in the southern states and efforts to curb it are in general progress, a fact that has caused a strong movement to improve the conditions of the colored people to persuade them to remain in the south.

CONWAY, ARK., DEMOCRAT
JANUARY 1, 1924

LYNCHINGS SHOW DECREASE IN 1923

ARKANSAS REPORTS TWO

Total for Year is 28, Less than Half Preceding Year's Record—26 Negroes, Two Whites.

(By the Associated Press)

Tuskegee, Ala., Jan. 1.—Lynchings in the United States decreased more than 50 per cent during 1923, with a total of 28 as compared with 57 in 1922, according to figures made public by the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute, a negro institution founded by Booker T. Washington, which has preserved an annual record of lynchings for a number of years.

Twenty-six of the victims were negroes and two were whites. Lynchings occurred in nine states, the number in each being as follows: Arkansas, 2; Florida, 8; Georgia, 4; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 8; Missouri 1; Oklahoma, 1; Texas, 2; Virginia, 1. Thirteen of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law seven from jails and six from officers.

The report of R. R. Moton, principal of the institute, continues:

"We also find that there were 46 instances in which officers of the law preventing lynchings. Four women, 3 white and 1 colored, were among those thus saved. Six of these preventions of lynchings were in northern states and 40 in southern states In 37 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In the 9 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. In 8 instances during the year persons charged with being connected with lynching mobs were brought to trial. Of the 52 persons thus before the courts only 2 were sent to the penitentiary.

"Of the 28 persons lynched in 1923 26 were negroes and 2 were whites two of the former were women Seven or one-fourth of those put to death were charged with rape or attempted rape; one of the victims was burned to death; one was put to death and then the body was burned. The charge against the one burned to death was murder.

"The offenses charged against the whites were: Participation in strike depredations, 1; being taken as a negro, 1. The offenses charged against the negroes were: Murder, 3; murderous assault, 2; rape, 6; attempted rape, 1; killing officer of the law, 2; wounding officer of the law 2; no charge reported, 3; assisting man charged with rape to escape, 1; resisting posse searching for man charged with rape, 1; cattle stealing, 1; 'trying to act like white man and not knowing his place', 1; insulting woman, 1; peeping in window, 1; striking man in alterca[illegible]n, 1."

Lynchings- 1923.
Reports on Sent Press.

Jan. —Dec.

1476

HOBOKEN N. J. OBSERVER
JANUARY 2, 1924

DECREASE IN LYNCHINGS.

The report of the Tuskegee Institute, which keeps a record of lynchings, shows a total of 28 during 1923, which was less than one-half the number in 1922, when the total was 57. The decrease is attributed to the exodus of negro laborers which followed every outburst of mob violence and an aroused public sentiment against the lynching bee, as the farmers of the South are now feeling the pinch of a scarcity of labor.

VICKSBURG, MISS., POST
JANUARY 2, 1924

DATA ON LYNCHING IN COUNTRY FOR PAST YEAR

Tuskegee Institute, Ala., Dec. 1.—The following records concerning lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research, Monroe N. Work in charge:

There were 28 persons lynched in 1923. This is 29 less than the number 57 for the year 1922. Thirteen of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 7 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails.

We also find that there were 46 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Four women, 3 white and 1 colored, were among those thus saved. Six of these preventions of lynchings were in northern states and 40 in southern states. In 37 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In the 9 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. In 8 instances during the year persons charged with being connected with lynching mobs were brought to trial. Of the 52 persons thus before the courts only 2 were sent to the penitentiary.

Of the 28 persons lynched in 1923, 26 were negroes and 2 were whites; two of the former were women, 7 or one fourth of those put to death were charged with rape or attempted rape; one of the victims was burned to death; one was put to death and then the body was burned. The charge against the one burned to death was murder.

The offenses charged against the whites were: participation in strike depredations, 1; being taken as a negro, 1. The offenses charged against the negroes were: murder 3; murderous assault, 2; rape, 6; attempted rape, 1; killing officer of the law, 2; wounding officer of the law, 2; resisting posse searching for man charged with rape, 1; cattle stealing, 1; "trying to act like white man not knowing his place," 1; insulting woman, 1; peeping in window, 1; striking man in altercation 1.

The nine states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows:

Arkansas, 2; Florida, 8; Georgia, 4; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 8; Missouri, 1; Oklahoma, 1; Texas, 2; Virginia, 1.

Williamston, Mich., Enterprise
Wednesday, Jan. 9, 1924

Lynchings Show Decrease.

Tuskegee, Ala.—Lynchings in the United States decreased more than 5 per cent during 1923, as compared with 1922, according to figures made public by the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial institute. During 1923 there were 28 lynchings, as compared with 57 for the preceding year, these figures showed. Twenty-six of the number were Negroes and two were whites. Two women were among the vic[illegible]

[illegible] NEWS
JANUARY 8, 1924

Combating the Lynching Evil.

In his annual report on lynchings in the United States Dr. Moton, principal of the Tuskegee institute, shows gratifying reduction in the number.

Twenty-eight persons were lynched in 1923, as compared with fifty-seven the preceding year. Only two white persons suffered thus from the vengeful fanaticism of the mob. Florida and Mississippi had eight lynchings each. Georgia was next with four and Arkansas followed with two. In each of six other southern or southwestern states there was one lynching.

Even more significant than the sharp reduction in the number of lynchings is the fact that in no fewer than forty-six cases officers of the law prevented mob murder by vigorous performance of duty in protecting their prisoners. In nine instances armed force was used to repulse would-be lynchers.

Public determination to stamp out mob violence and enforce due process of law is admitted by all to be an important factor in the improved situation, but of late other notable factors have added their influence. The northward movement of colored laborers is one of these and the agitation in and out of congress for federal antilynching legislation is another.

The south is hostile toward federal legislation designed to re-enforce its efforts to combat the lynching evil. It should diligently seek to make federal intervention unnecessary by strengthening state laws directed against mob usurpation of power and by building up a public sentiment that will brook no such usurpation.

Dublin, Ga-
Herald-

DEC 29 1923

LYNCHINGS DECREASING.

R. R. Morton, colored principal of Tuskegee, furnishes a report at the close of the year which indicates that less than the number 57 for the year 1922. Thirteen of lynched in 1922. And the information of which we were specially proud is that Georgia had only four lynchings this year.

Morton's report follows:

"There were 28 persons lynched in 1923. This is 29 less than the number 57 for the year 1022. Thirteen of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 7 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails.

"There were 46 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Four women, 3 white and 1 colored, were among those thus saved. Six of these preventions of lynchings were in northern states and 40 in southern states. In 37 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precaution taken. In the 9 other instances, armed force was used to repell the would-be lynchers. In 8 instances during the year persons charged with being connected with lynching mobs brought to trial. Of the 52 persons thus before the courts 2 were sent to the penitentiary.

"Of the 28 persons lynched in 1923, 26 were negroes and 2 were whites; two of the former were women. Seven, or one-fourth of those put to death were charged with rape or attempted rape; one of the victims was burned to death; one was put to death and then the body was burned. The charge against the one burned to death was murder.

"The offenses charged against the whites were: participation in strike depredations, 1; being taken as a negro, 1. The offenses charged against the negroes were: murder, 3; murderous assault, 2; rape, 6; attempted rape, 1; killing officer of the law, 2; wounding officer of the law, 2; no charge reported, 3; assisting man charged with rape to escape, 1; resisting posse searching for man charged with rape, 1; cattle stealing, 1; "trying to act like white man and not knowing his place," 1; insulting woman, 1; peeping in window, 1; striking man in altercation, 1.

"The nine states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 2; Florida, 8; Georgia, 4; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 8; Missouri, 1; Oklahoma, 1; Texas, 2; Virginia, 1."

JERSEY CITY N. J. JOURNAL
JANUARY 7, 1924

FEWER LYNCHINGS.

There will be many attempts to explain the marked reductions in the number of lynchings in the South last year—28 compared with 57 for 1922, according to records kept by Tuskegee Institute. It is hardly likely that the falling off was due, in a large way, to the fact that so many Negroes have come North. It may be assumed that these were willing workers who desired to improve their condition.

The most likely explanation is that public sentiment is becoming less tolerant of methods of summary vengeance upon suspected criminals. Official authority is more active in protecting Negroes arrested on such charges as incite to lynching. Evidently, the South is feeling the disgrace in its reputation of yielding up certain classes of Negroes to the fury of the mob when the ordinary process of justice can be made certain and swift. The comparatively good record for 1923 may be only an exception or it may be indicative of permanent improvement.

[illegible] JAN 1 - 1924

FIFTY PER CENT FEWER LYNCHINGS

Tuskegee, Ala., Jan. 1.—(By Associated Press.)—Lynchings in the United States decreased more than fifty per cent during 1923, as compared with 1922, according to figures made public by the Tuskegee normal and industrial institute. During 1923 there were 28 lynchings, as compared with 57 for the preceding year, these figures showed. Twenty-six of this number were negroes and two were whites. Two women were among the victims of mobs.

These figures gave Mississippi and Florida 8 lynchings each, Georgia 4, Arkansas 2, Texas 2, Virginia 1, Missouri 1, Oklahoma 1, Louisiana 1. None was reported from North Carolina, South Carolina and Alabama, according to the Tuskegee compilation.

The Tuskegee report says there were forty-six instances during the year in which officers of the law prevented lynchings, forty of these cases being in Southern states and six in northern states.

Thirteen of those lynched last year were taken from the hands of the law, the report statse, seven from jails and six from officers outside of jails. Seven of the victims were charged with attack or attempted attack, three with murder, two with murderous assault, two for wounding an officer of the law, and the rest for various other offenses.

Thomasville Ga-
Enterprise -
DEC 31 1923

LYNCHINGS IN PAST YEAR

Twenty-eight persons were reported lynched during the year 1923, which is 29 less than the total number reported for the year preceding, according to a statement issued from the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute. Thirteen of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 7 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails.

We also find that there were 46 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Four women, 3 white and 1 colored, were among those thus saved. Six of these preventions of lynchings were in Northern states and 40 in Southern states. In 37 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In the 9 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. In 8 instances during the year persons charged with being connected with lynching mobs were brought to trial. Of the 52 persons thus before the courts only 2 were sent to the penitentiary.

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The offenses charged against the whites were: Participation in strike depredations, 1; being taken as a negro, 1. The offense charged against the negroes were: Murder, 3; murderous assault, 2; rape, 6; attempted rape, 1; killing officer of the law, 2; wounding officer of the law, 2; no charge reported, 3; assisting man charged with rape to escape, 1; resisting posse searching for man charged with rape, 1; cattle stealing 1; "trying to act like white man and not knowing his place," 1; insulting woman, 1; peeping in window, 1; striking man in altercation, 1.

The nine states in which lynching occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 2; Florida, 8; Georgia, 4; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 8; Missouri, 1; Oklahoma, 1; Texas, 2; Virginia, 1.

SCHENECTADY N. Y. STAR
JANUARY 8, 1924

Fewer Lynchings

WE TRUST, purely as a matter of New Year's optimism, that many of our readers took in the significance of the fewer lynchings last year, as compared with the previous year, as reported on this page the other day.

These statistics on lynching are kept, we presume with impartial care, by Tuskeegee Institute, the famous school for colored boys and girls which Booker T. Washington founded in Alabama. Accurate information on the subject is important, because fewer lynchings indicate fewer actual crimes of violence that provoke this form of punishment and at the same time greater intelligence on the part of the southern public that less and less condones this sort of outdoor sport.

Last year there were only twenty-nine lynching bees in the United States, compared with fifty-seven cases the previous year, a falling off of one-half. Equally hopeful with these figures is the statement that forty-six lynchings were prevented by officers of the law. Persons remote from the south often are told they can know nothing about the color line; but these figures lead us to believe that fear and race hatred have in the past aggravated the situation far beyond reason. The fact that the authorities have been successful in averting forty-six murders by violence and torture in a single year substantiates the belief that lynching never has been the work of the "better element," and that a reasonable endeavor to enforce law would do away with it utterly, because lynchers are mostly a cowardly set and lynching is an outburst of unreasoning passion.

POUGHKEEPSIE (N. Y) EAGLE
JANUARY 5, 1924

LYNCHING ON THE DECLINE

Lynch "law," long a disgrace to the United States and particularly to the South, seems to be passing. Statistics compiled by the Department of Records and Research of Tuskegee Institute show that 28 persons were lynched in 1923, as contrasted with 57 in 1922, a decrease of a little more than 50 per cent. In 46 reported cases, officers of the law prevented fatal mob violence, and it is significant that 40 of these occurred in southern states.

These figures, which follow a somewhat similar improvement shown in 1922, are an encouraging indication of a trend toward proper respect for law. The causes of the improvement are probably three-fold. The agitation behind the Dyer anti-lynching law has directed attention pointedly to the evil of mob rule, and while the measure failed of passage because of the filibuster against it those who opposed it doubtless have come to the conclusion that the nation eventually will take action unless lynchings are prevented. In the second place the efforts both of negroes and whites to improve the level of education among negroes has been having a salutary and cumulative effect. Finally, the steady exodus of negroes from the south has become a serious industrial problem there, and the south is realizing more than ever before that it needs the negro and must accord him fair treatment and a protection under the law equal to that granted to others. The old and erroneous idea that the negro was a liability to the south rather than an asset is giving place to a juster estimate of his importance.

It is to be hoped that these factors will continue to operate to the end that 1924's record of lynchings will show an even smaller total than that of 1923.

ST LOUIS MO STAR
JANUARY 5, 1924

LYNCHING RECORD OF 1923.

The statistics for 1923 as to lynchings of negroes in the South and the whole country have just been given out by Principal Moton of the Tuskegee Institute.

They are a very strong argument against Representative Dyer's federal anti-lynching bill and against President Coolidge's recommendation of such legislation.

The number of lynchings the past year is 28 as against 57 for 1922. The evil has been lessened by a little more than half. That is a tremendous change and the change is not an accident, as will be known later.

Principal Moton's report shows also that there were 46 instances last year in which officers of the law prevented lynchings, and that 40 of these preventions were in Southern States.

The 28 lynchings were in 9 States, as follows: Arkansas, 2; Florida, 8; Georgia, 4; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 8; Missouri, 1; Oklahoma, 1; Texas, 2; Virginia, 1.

It will be observed that there were no lynchings in Alabama, a fact largely due to causes heretofore noted in these columns—a State law fastening responsibility on an officer failing to do his duty in protecting prisoners and providing for certain removal from office by trial before the Supreme Court of the State, which acts both as jury and judge.

There has been one great fundamental cause for this halving of the record of lynchings in 1923. The Southern people have been roused to the desirability of protecting negroes from violence and of extending them fair court trials. This dormant sense of duty among the best white people has been quickened, in all probability, by the unusual exodus of negro labor. Every sort of reasonable and legitimate effort to make the negroes content has been advocated by Southern papers and leaders.

This effort has been conspicuous in Alabama, where a series of page advertisements has appeared in some of the leading dailies. These advertisements have been directed to the end of arousing white public opinion to the expediency and justice of taking better care of the inferior race in all material and moral respects. The matter was admirably conceived, effectively written, and plainly has had a marked result.

There is no need of federal legislation on this subject. The States only should handle such matters, and they are doing it. There are too many laws now, and not enough of willingness to execute good laws that are in existence. This is especially true in all matters connected with police powers. That function belongs to the States, and any transgression of the States' province is unwholesome and almost invariably ineffective.

From Galladuma
Of Savan NEW YORK
Date DEC 19 1923

FEWER LYNCHINGS.

Although complete figures are not yet available, indications are that lynchings in the United States were only half as numerous in 1923 as in 1922. In the first six months of this year there were only 14 lynchings as compared with 30 in the same period in 1922 and 33 in 1921.

This is real progress, better than any one not in a position to know the actual figures would guess.

The commission on race relations, of the Federal Council of Churches of Christ in America, gives two reasons for this improvement:

The campaign of education carried on by the churches of the country, and the remarkable co-operation of the press—including southern as well as northern papers.

Some citizens may grow weary of having education and publicity given so much credit. Alone, of course, they could not accomplish the wonders they have accomplished. But backed by constructive action, those two factors are our most effective reformers.

Lynchings - 1923
Reports on. Sent Press.

Jan. — Dec.

1477

Tifton, Ga., Gazette

JAN 2 - 1924

LYNCHINGS CUT IN HALF.

According to figures compiled by the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute, there were 28 persons lynched in 1923. This is 29 less than the number 57 for the year 1922. Thirteen of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 7 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails.

There were 46 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Four women, three white and one colored, were among those thus saved. Six of these preventions of lynchings were in Northern States and 40 in Southern States. In 37 of the cases, the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In the nine other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. In eight instances during the year persons charged with being connected with lynching mobs were brought to trial. Of the 52 persons thus before the courts only two were sent to the penitentiary.

Of the 28 persons lynched in 1923, 26 were negroes and two were whites; two of the former were women. Seven, or one-fourth, of those put to death were charged with rape or attempted rape; one of the victims was burned to death; one was put to death and then the body burned. The charge against the one burned to death was murder.

The offenses charged against the whites were: participation in strike depredations, 1; being taken as a negro, 1. The offenses charged against the negroes were: murder, 3; murderous assault, 2; rape, 6; attempted rape, 1; killing officer of the law, 2; wounding officer of the law, 2; no charge reported, 3; assisting man charged with rape to escape, 1; resisting posse searching for man charged with rape, 1; cattle stealing, 1; "trying to act like white man and not knowing his place," 1; insulting woman, 1; peeping in window, 1; striking man in altercation, 1.

The nine states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 2; Florida, 8; Georgia, 4; Louisiana 1; Mississippi, 8; Missouri, 1; Oklahoma, 1 Texas, 2; Virginia. 1.

Goldsboro N. C
Times

JAN 1 - 1924

Lynchings Decreased Fifty Per Cent Last Year In This Country; None Was Reported In North Carolina

Only 26 In All—Florida and Mississippi Lead the List with 8 Each: Georgia Second with 4: North Carolina, South Carolina and Alabama Had None.

Tuskeegee, Ala., Jan. 1.—Lynchings in the United States decreased more than fifty per cent in 1923 over the number recorded in 1922, the statistics carefully prepared at Tuskeegee, and made public today show.

The total number of lynchings in 1923 was twenty-eight compared with fifty-seven in 1922.

Of this number 26 were negroes and 2 were whites. Two women were among the victims.

Mississippi and Florida had 8 each: Georgia, 4; Arkansas, 2; Texas 2; Virginia 1; Missouri 1; Oklahoma 1; Louisiana 1.

None are reported for North Carolina, South Carolina and Alabama.

The report says there were forty-six attempts at lynching that were frustrated by officers, 40 of which were in the South and six in the North.

Thirteen of those lynched had already been apprehended by the law of whom seven were taken from jails and six were taken from officers.

Florida eight lynchings each, Georgia four, Arkansas two, Texas, two, Virginia one, Missouri one, Oklahoma one, Louisiana one. None was reported from North Carolina, South Carolina and Alabama, according to the Tuskegee compilation.

The Tuskegee report says there were forty-six instances during the year in which officers of the law prevented lynchings, forty of these cases being in Southern states and six in Northern states.

Thirteen of those lynched last year were taken from the hands of the law, the report states, seven from jails and six from officers outside of jails. Seven of the victims were charged with attack or attempted attack, three with murder, two with murderous assault, two for wounding an officer of the law, and the rest with other offenses.

LYNCHINGS DROP TUSKEGEE REPORTS

Only Twenty-Eight Mob Victims in Year, Figures Show.

Tuskegee, Ala., Jan. 1.—Lynchings in the United States decreased more than 50 per cent dring 1923, as compared with 1922, according to figures made public by the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute. During 1923 there were twenty-eight lynchings as compared with fifty-seven for the preceding year, these figures showed. Twenty-six of the number were negroes and two were women were among the victims of mobs.

1-2-24

These figures gave Mississippi and

50 PER CENT DECREASE IN YEAR'S LYNCHINGS

Tuskegee, Ala., January 1.—Lynchings in the United States decreased more than 50 per cent during 1923 as compared with 1922 according to figures made public by the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial institute During 1923 there were 28 lynchings as compared with 57 for the preceding year, these figures showed. Twenty-six of the number were negroes and two whites. Two women were among the victims of mobs.

1-2-24

These figures gave Mississippi and Florida eight lynchings each, Georgia 4, Arkansas 2, Texas 2, Virginia 1, Missouri 1, Oklahoma 1, Louisiana 1. None was reported from North Carolina, South Carolina and Alabama, according to the Tuskegee compilation.

The Tuskegee report says there were 46 instances during the year in which officers of the law prevented lynchings, 40 of these cases were in southern states and six in northern states.

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One Woman Lynched During Year Of 1923

LESS THAN ONE-HALF OF NUMBER OF LYNCHINGS DURING YEAR JUST CLOSING OVER PREVIOUS YEAR.—TUSKEGEE SENDS OUT STATISTICS.

Tuskegee Institute, Ala., Jan. 1.—According to the report concerning lynchings in the United States during the year 1923 as shown in the statistics compiled in the department of Records and Research, of which Monroe N. Work is head, twenty-eight lynchings were staged during the year. The statement which is sent out by Principal Moton of Tuskegee, shows further.

This is 29 less than the number 57 for the year 1922. Thirteen of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 7 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails.

We also find that there were 46 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Four women, 3 white and 1 colored, were among those thus saved. Six of these preventions of lynchings were in northern states and 40 in southern states. In 37 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In the 9 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. In 8 instances during the year persons charged with being connected with lynching mobs were brought to trial. Of the 52 persons thus before the courts only 2 were sent to the penitentiary.

Of the 28 persons lynched in 1923, 26 were negroes and 2 were whites; two of the former were women. 7 or one-fourth of those put to death were charged with rape or attempted rape; one of the victims was burned to death; one was put to death and then the body was burned. The charge against the one burned to death was murder.

The offenses charged against the whites were: participation in strike depredations, 1; being taken as a negro, 1. The offenses charged against the negroes were: murder, 3; murderous asault, 2; rape, 6; attempted rape 1; killing officer of the law, 2; wounding officer of the law, 2; no charge reported, 3; assisting man charged with rape to escape, 1; resisting posse searching for man charged with rape, 1; cattle stealing, 1; "trying to act like white man and not knowing his place," 1; insulting woman, 1; peeping in window, 1; striking man in altercation, 1.

The nine states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 2; Florida 8; Georgia, 4; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 8; Missouri, 1; Oklahoma, 1; Texas, 2; Virginia, 1.

COLUMBIA, S. C.
Record
JAN 14 1924

THE LYNCHING RECORD.

According to figures lately released by Robert Russa Moten, principal of Tuskegee Institute, Tuskegee, Ala., less than half as many lynchings took place in the United States in 1923 as was the case in 1922. But the record was bad enough at that. Nine States receive discredit marks in the Moton report.

Mississippi and Florida tie for first place in the lynching record, each reporting eight. In seven other States lynchings took place, as follows: Arkansas, 2; Georgia, 4; Louisiana, 1; Missouri, 1; Oklahoma, 1; Virginia, 1, and Texas 2.

After noting these figures the esteemed Dallas Morning News, pays a much appreciated tribute to the Carolinas for the showing they made in escaping entirely all semblance of that sort of outlawry. We take pleasure in giving an excerpt from our Dallas contemporary's viewpoint:

Neither of the Carolinas appears to have staged a lynching last year, notwithstanding there is a large colored population in both those States. South Carolina has perhaps a preponderance of negroes, but for one reason or another there is little race disturbance there. Virginia had one lynching and there are proportionately far fewer negroes in that State than in South Carolina.

On the other hand, Mississippi, where the blacks have outnumbered the whites for a century, there were eight lynchings. The white population's attitude toward crime is the same in all the States. Therefore, it would be interesting to have an authoritative statement of the conditions which seem to create race enmity in one State and race amity in an adjoining State.

It may be remarked also that in South Carolina, where the agricultural labor is mostly black, there is a high average of prosperity on the farms. Perhaps the landlords are influential enough not only to forbid but punish irresponsibles inclined to "whitecap" or otherwise intimidate negro labor, as is not uncommon in some regions.

If so, there are other Southern States which might profit by South Carolina's example. Farms without workers are not good property, and no one knows this better than the South Carolinians, who have been farming with negro labor three hundred years.

The amity apparent to our Dallas neighbor between the white and the negro races in South Carolina is not primarily due to the need of farm or other classes of labor. It is due to the fact that as a general rule the two races stay in their own places and obey the law.

The negro has become quite a fixture in South Carolina, owning thousands of dollars worth of property. He is intent on measuring up to citizenship standards on this account. He pays his taxes and he has his public and private schools and his costly churches, and these have greatly helped him.

Nobody has coddled the negro in this State and nobody has undertaken to hold his coat-tails when the urge came to him to seek greener pastures in the North and West. While this has been the rule, the migration from South Carolina on the part of the negro has not been alarming.

Another reason why South Carolina has quit lynching is that the courts have been doing their duty in enforcing the laws and our people have found out that lynching bees are not good for them. But the primary reason for the splendid showing South Carolina has made in this respect is that the negro has apparently decided that he would rather live than meet sure death, legal, or otherwise, for a certain offense.

KANSAS CITY MO. STAR
JANUARY 3, 1924

LYNCHING AND MORE LAW.

Two forces in particular operated to reduce the number of lynchings last year to less than half the number for 1922 and to the lowest figure by far on record. They were activity of officials of the law in checking mobs and a growth of public sentiment against mob action. The report of Tuskegee institute giving the number last year as 28, compared with 57 the previous year and an average of about 65 for a period of several years, also shows that 46 threatened lynchings were prevented by officers of the law.

The inference of the situation is plain. What is needed to reduce lynching to a minimum and finally wipe out the evil is not additional laws, but an increase of public sentiment that will condemn lawlessness and demand prompt action against those who presume to take the law in their own hands. There are laws enough against mob action; there is no good reason to believe that proposed federal interference in the matter would be an aid—not at least until those advocating the proposal have seen to it that the fifteenth amendment is enforced for a year or two in advance.

Lynchings — 1923. Jan — Dec. 1478
Reports in Sent Press.

KNOXVILLE TIMES

JAN 3 - 1924 News.

One Woman Lynched During Year Of 1923

LESS THAN ONE-HALF OF NUMBER OF LYNCHINGS DURING YEAR JUST CLOSING OVER PREVIOUS YEAR.—TUSKEGEE SENDS OUT STATISTICS.

Tuskegee Institute, Ala., Jan. 1.—According to the report concerning lynchings in the United States during the year 1923 as shown in the statistics compiled in the department of Records and Research, of which Monroe N. Work is head, twenty-eight lynchings were staged during the year. The statement which is sent out by Principal Moton of Tuskegee, shows further.

This is 29 less than the number 57 for the year 1922. Thirteen of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 7 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails.

We also find that there were 46 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Four women, 3 white and 1 colored, were among those thus saved. Six of these preventions of lynchings were in northern states and 40 in southern states. In 37 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In the 9 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. In 8 instances during the year persons charged with being connected with lynching mobs were brought to trial. Of the 52 persons thus before the courts only 2 were sent to the penitentiary.

Of the 28 persons lynched in 1923, 26 were negroes and 2 were whites; two of the former were women, 7 or one-fourth of those put to death were charged with rape or attempted rape; one of the victims was burned to death; one was put to death and then the body was burned. The charge against the one burned to death was murder.

The offenses charged against the whites were: participation in strike depredations, 1; being taken as a negro, 1. The offenses charged against the negroes were: murder, 3; murderous asault, 2; rape, 6; attempted rape 1; killing officer of the law, 2; wounding officer of the law, 2; no charge reported, 3; assisting man charged with rape to escape, 1; resisting posse searching for man charged with rape, 1; cattle stealing, 1; "trying to act like white man and not knowing his place," 1; insulting woman, 1; peeping in window, 1; striking man in altercation, 1.

The nine states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 2; Florida 8; Georgia, 4; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 8; Missouri, 1; Oklahoma, 1; Texas, 2; Virginia, 1.

Dublin, Ga. Herald

JAN 1 - 1924

Smaller Record for Lynchings in 1923 Reported in Country

Tuskegee, Ala., Jan. 1.—There were 28 persons lynched in 1923. This is 29 less than the number 57 for the year 1922. Thirteen of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 7 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails.

There were 46 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Four women, 3 white and 1 colored, were among those thus saved. Six of these preventions of lynchings were in Northern states and 40 in Southern states. In 37 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In the 9 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. In 8 instances during the year persons charged with being connected with lynching mobs were brought to trial. Of the 52 persons thus before the courts only 2 were sent to the penitentiary.

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The offenses charged against the whites were; participation in strike depredations, 1; being taken as a negro, 1. The offenses charged against the negroes were: murder, 3; murderous assaults, 2; rape, 6, attempted rape, 1, killing officer of the law, 2; wounding officer of the law, 2; no charge reported, 3; assisting man with rape, to escape, 1; resisting posse searching for man charged with rape, 1; cattle stealing, 1; "trying to act like white man not knowing his place", 1; insulting woman, 1, peeping in window, 1; striking man in altercation 1.

The nine states in which lynching occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 2; Florida, 8; Georgia, 4; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 8; Missouri, 1; Oklahoma, 1; Texas, 2 Virginia, 1.

GORDELE

Dispatch

DEC 27 1923

LYNCHINGS DECREASING

R. R. Morton, colored principal of Tuskegee, furnishes a report at the close of the year which indicates that less than half as many were lynched in 1922 as were lynched in 1923. And the information of which we are specially proud is that Georgia had only four lynchings this year.

Morton's report follows:

"There were 28 persons lynched in 1923. This is 29 less than the number 57 for the year 1922. Thirteen of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of fthe law, 7 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails.

"There were 46 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Four women, 3 white and 1 colored, were among those thus saved. Six of these preventions of lynchings were in Northern States and 40 in Southern States. In 37 the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precaution taken. In the 9 other instances, armed force was used to repeel the would be lynchers In 8 instances during the year persons charged with being connected with lynching mobs brought to trial. Of the 52 persons thus before the courts 2 were sent to the penitentiary.

"Of the 28 persons lynched in 1923, 26 were negroes and 2 were whites; two of the former were women. Seven, or one fourth of those put to death, were charged with rape or attempted rape; one of the victims was burned to death; one was put to death and then the body was burned. The charge against the one burned to death was murder.

"The offenses charged against the whites were: participation in strike depredations, 1; being taken as a negro, 1. The offenses charged against the negroes were: murder, 3; murderous assault, 2; rape, 6; attempted rape, 1; killing officer of the law, 2; wounding officer of the law, 2; no charge reported, 3; assisting man charged with rape to escape, 1; resisting posse searching for man charged with rape, 1; cattle stealing, 1; "trying to act like white man and not knowing his place," 1; insulting woman, 1; peeping in window, 1; striking man in altercation 1.

"The nine states in which lynchings ocurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 2; Florida, 8; Georgia, 4; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 8; Missouri, 1; Okklahoma, 1; Texas, 2; Virginia, 1."

SALISBURY, N

Post-

JAN 1 - 1923

LYNCH RECORD CUT IN HALF

Only 28 Lynchings Reported in 1923; None Occurred in North Carolina.

Tuskegee, Ala., Jan. 1.—Lynch-
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w and the rest with other of-
nses.

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Of the 28 persons lynched during the year, 26 were negroes and two were whites, Dr. Moton states. There were two women among the list of negroes.

Dr. Moton's report further shows that there were 46 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Forty of these preventions were in southern states and six in northern states.

One fourth of those put to death were charged with criminal assault. One victim was burned to death and another's body burned after he had been killed. Other offenses follow: striking man in altercation 1, insulting woman 1, peeping in window 1, resisting posse searching for man charged with criminal assault 1, cattle stealing 1, killing officers of the law 2, "trying to act like white man and not knowing his place" 1.

The statistics were compiled by Monroe H. Work in charge of the department of records and research of the Tuskegee Institute.

MONTGOMERY, ALA., Journal

JAN 1 - 1924

LYNCHINGS SHOW DECREASE IN THE YEAR JUST PAST

Mississippi and Florida Lead, Moton's Report Places Number at 28.

TUSKEGEE, ALA., Jan. 1.—(Special.)—Lynchings in the United States decreased more than 50 per cent during 1923 as compared with the record for the previous year, according to figures announced here Friday night by Dr. Robert Moton, principal of the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute. During 1923 lynchings numbered 28 as compared with 57 for the year 1922.

Mississippi and Florida led in number of lynchings with eight each. Seven other states report lynchings as follows: Georgia 4, Arkansas 2, Texas 2, Virginia 1, Missouri 1, Oklahoma 1 and Louisiana

JAN 1 - 1924

LYNCHINGS CUT 50 PER CENT

Report Shows Large Decrease In Violent Deaths By Lynch Law In U. S.

TUSKEGEE, Ala., Jan. 1.—Lynchings in the United States decreased more than 50 per cent during 1923 as compared with 1922, according to figures made public by the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute. During 1923 there were 28 lynchings as compared with 57 for the preceding year, these figures showed. Twenty-six of the number were negroes and two whites. Two women were among the victims of the mobs.

These figures gave Mississippi and Florida 8 lynchings each; Georgia, 4; Arkansas, 2; Texas, 2; Virginia, 1; Missouri, 1; Oklahoma, 1; Louisiana, 1. None were reported from North Carolina, South Carolina and Alabama, according to the Tuskegee compilation.

The Tuskegee report says there were 46 instances during the year in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Forty of these cases were in southern states and six in northern states.

Thirteen of those lynched last year were taken from the hands of the law, the report states, seven from jails and six from officers outside of jails. Seven of the victims were charged with attack or attempted attack, three with murder, two with murderous assault, two for wounding an officer of the law and the rest with other offenses.

Vidalia, Ga-
Advance

JAN 3 - 1924

28 LYNCHINGS IN 1923.

Tuskegee Institute has compiled some interesting figures concerning lynchings during the year 1923, as follows:

We find that there were 28 persons lynched in 1923. This is 29 less than the number, 57, for the year 1922. Thirteen of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 7 from jails, and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails.

We also find that there were 46 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Four women, 3 white and 1 colored, were among those thus saved. Six of these preventions were in Northern states and 40 in Southern states. In 37 of the cases the prisoners were removed or guards augmented or other precautions taken. In the 9 other instances armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. In 8 instances during the year persons charged with being connected with lynching mobs were brought to trial. Of the 52 persons thus before the courts only 2 were sent to the penitentiary.

Of the 28 persons lynched in 1923 26 were Negroes and 2 were whites; two of the former were women. 7, or one-fourth of those put to death were charged with rape or attempted rape; one of the victims was burned to death; one was put to death and then the body burned. The charge against the one burned to death was murder.

The offenses charged against the whites were: participation in strike depredations 1, being taken as a Negro 1. The offenses charged against the Negroes were: murder 3, murderous assault 2, rape 6, attempted rape 1, killing officer of the law 2, wounding officer of the law 2, no charge reported 3, assisting man charged with rape to escape 1, resisting posse searching for man charged with rape 1, cattle stealing 1, "trying to act like white man and not knowing his place"-1, insulting woman 1, peeping in window 1, striking man in altercation 1.

The nine states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas 2, Florida 8, Georgia 4, Louisiana 1, Mississippi 8, Missouri 1, Oklahoma 1, Texas 2, Virginia 1.

ASHEVILLE, N. C.,

Times

JAN 1 - 1924

LYNCHING RECORD of 1923

Editor of The Times:

I send you the following concerning lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research, Monroe N. Work in charge. I find that there were 28 persons lynched in 1923. This is 29 less than the number 57 for the year 1922. Thirteen of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 7 from jail and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails.

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The nine states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 2 Florida, 8; Georgia, 4; Lousiana, 1 Mississippi, 8; Missouri, 1; Oklahoma 1; Texas, 2; Virginia, 1.

Yours very truly,
R. R. MORTON
Principal.

Tuskegee Institute, Ala., Dec. 31,

1435 Fredericksburg, Va. Free Lan

DECEMBER 25, 1923

LYNCHINGS IN AMERICA CUT ONE-HALF IN 1923

Lynchings in the United States in 1923 numbered 26 against 61 in 1923. The decrease was laid to agitation for a Federal anti-lynching law and the northward migration of negroes.

Mississippi and Florida were reported to lead, with five lynchings each. Georgia was listed with four, Oklahoma 3, and Arkansas, Alabama and Texas two each. Louisiana, Missouri and Virginia each had one.

Lynchings—1923. Jan. —Dec. 1479

Reports on Sent Press

Atlanta, Ga. JOURNAL

JAN 1 - 1923

50 Per Cent Decrease In Lynchings in 1923, Tuskegee Announces

TUSKEGEE, Ala., Jan. 1.—Lynchings in the United States decreased more than 50 per cent during 1923 as compared with 1922, according to figures made public by the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial institute. During 1923 there were 28 lynchings as compared with 57 for the preceding year, these figures showed. Twenty-six of the number were negroes and two whites. Two woman were among the victims of mobs.

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PINE BLUFF, ARK., COMMERCIAL
JANUARY 1, 1924

MISSISSIPPI AND FLORIDA TOP THE LIST

Out of 28 Lynchings These Two States Had Eight Each To Their Credit.

ARKANSAS HAD TWO

In 1922 57 Persons Were The Victims of Mobs; Two Whites Lynched In 1923.

TUSKEGEE, Ala., Jan. 1, (By the Associated Press).—Lynchings in the United States decreased more than fifty per cent during 1923 as compared with 1922, according to figures made public by the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial institute. During 1923 there were 28 lynchings as compared with 57 for the preceding year, these figures showed.

Twenty-six of the number were Negroes and two were whites. Two women were among the victims of the mobs.

These figures gave Mississippi and Florida eight lynchings each, Georgia four, Arkansas two, Texas two Virginia, Missouri, Oklahoma and Louisiana one each. None was reported from North Carolina, South Carolina and Alabama, according to the Tuskegee compilation.

The Tuskegee report says there were forty-six instances during the year in which officers of the law prevented lynchings, forty of these being in southern states and six in northern states.

Thirteen of those lynched last year were taken from the hands of the law, the report states, seven from jails and six from officers outside of the jails. Seven of the victims were charged with attack or attempted attack, three with murder, two with murderous assault, two for wounding an officer of the law and the rest with other offenses.

GREENSBORO N C NEWS
DECEMBER 30, 1923

MAYBE WE HAVE LEARNED.

Tuskeegee's lynching report for the [illegible] 26 victims of the mob has set all the reflective-minded to thinking on how it could have happened.

It is the best record ever made by the country; so good that we are suspicious of its meaning and the psychologists are giving us their versions of it. Some of them think we have treated the negro badly, that he pulled up stakes and went north, whereupon we ordered our conduct accordingly. The internecine warfare going on within the Ku Klux klan, supposed nemesis of the black, has taken its attention from the negro. And still others wonder if the presence of the klan has not removed much of the necessity for mob law.

Much to our credit, few of us have pretended that we have grown in grace, yet it is not unthinkable that we actually have learned something. We know that lynchings prevent no crimes; they merely acquaint the communities disgraced by them with the ways of the savage. If we have learned any portion of this lesson we probably have contained ourselves when otherwise we had not.

We shall believe that we have learned a little. If we have not, the world about us has, and we are now five years from the international shooting match plus an emotional debauch for several years. Self-control under such conditions was vastly more difficult than today. And we have exercised some of this self-containment. Both the whites and the blacks have improved their conduct. They have been on exceptionally good behavior.

Which is something about which a good deal of noise could, with perfect propriety, be made. It is not particularly creditable that it has taken us two generations to see the futility of lynchings, if we have at least seen it in part. The record supports the theory of inward betterment. and that is something.

NEW ORLEANS LA PICAYUNE
DECEMBER 27, 1923

The "Lynching Record"

The "lynching record" for 1923, as compiled by the Tuskegee Institute, could be cited as a logical argument against a federal anti-lynching law if the advocates of that measure were amenable to any other than political reasoning. For it shows a marked decrease in the total number of lynchings as compared with the preceding year, and an equally marked increase in the efforts made by officers of the law to protect prisoners against "lynching parties" The Tuskegee statistician cites forty-six instances "in which officers of the law prevented lynchings," "armed force" being used in nine of these.

The lynching total for the year, according to the Tuskegee compilation, stands at 28, as compared with 57 in 1922. All are charged against Southern states, the Tuskegee definition being so organized, apparently, as to exclude mob activities practiced in the Northern states and narrowed down to include, with a few exceptions, the putting to death of negroes by mobs. Thus the wholesale "lynching" of white miners at Herrin, Ill., found no place in the Tuskegee record for that year.

Since the proposed federal anti-lynching law apparently is aimed at lynching as defined by Tuskegee, the Tuskegee figures may fairly be cited as evidence that this ponderous legislative weapon is unnecessary. Fewer persons were lynched during the entire year and over the entire country than met violent death at the hands of gunmen and other criminals in a single month—sometimes even in a single city. Condemned by enlightened public opinion that is more widely and more resolutely demanding and supporting preventive action by state and local officers, lynching grows beautifully less, by Tuskegee's own showing. The agitated "statesmen" who demand extra-constitutional action by the federal government against this dying evil might better seek a federal law along the same line to halt the murderous activities of organized gunmen, hi-jackers, etc., if their motive really is the saving of life and the prevention of violent crimes.

BRUNSWICK GA, [illegible]

JAN 2 - 1924

LYNCHINGS SHOW BIG DECREASE IN YEAR JUST ENDED

DURING 1923 THERE WERE 28, AS COMPARED WITH 57 FOR 1922

Tuskegee, Ala., Jan. 2.—Lynchings in the United States decreased more than 50 per cent during 1923, as compared with 1922, according to figures made public by the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute. During 1922 there were twenty-eight lynchings as compared with fifty-seven for the preceding year, these figures showed. Twenty-six of the number were negroes and two whites. Two women were among the victims of the mobs.

These figures gave Mississippi and Florida eight lynchings each, Georgia four, Arkansas two, Texas two, Virginia one, Missouri one, Oklahoma one, Louisiana one. None were reported from North Carolina or South Carolina, according to the Tuskegee compilation.

The Tuskegee report says there were forty-six instances during the year in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Forty of these cases were in Southern states and six in Northern states.

Thirteen of those lynched last year were taken from the hands of the law, the report states, seven from jails and six from officers outside the jails. Seven of the victims were charged with attack or attempted attack, three with murder, two with murderous assault, two for wounding an officer of the law, and the rest with other offenses.

PROGRESS AGAINST LYNCHING

[St. Louis Post-Dispatch]

One of the triumphs of 1923 was the reduction in the nation's lynching record by more than 50 per cent. R. R. Moton, the successor of Booker T. Washington as principal of Tuskegee Institute, in a statistical resume reveals than only 28 persons were put to death by mobs in 1923 as against 57 for the preceding year.

It is also encouraging to note that 46 lynchings were prevented by officers of the law, 40 of which were in Southern states. 1-12-24

Lynchings occurred in nine states. The chief disgrace goes to Florida and Mississippi, each of which had eight instances. Georgia had four, Arkansas and Texas two, and Louisiana, Missouri, Oklahoma and Virginia one each. Two of those put to death were whites.

The statistical story throws a new light on the lynching curse. Though we still have lynchings, progress is being made against them, and the fact that so many cases were prevented proves that agitation and public opinion are having an influence in behalf of law and constitutional protection for the individual. It would be interesting to know just what influence the general migration of Negroes from the South has had on the lynch record. Incidentally, the case for federal intervention in the states to prevent lynchings and bring mob leaders to justice, as provided in the Dyer bill, has been weakened.

MONTGOMERY, AL
Advertiser
JAN 2 - 1924

NO LYNCHING FOR ALABAMA IN 1923

State Has Clear Record in Total Which Shows Big Reductions

TUSKEGEE, ALA., Jan. 1.—By The Associated Press.—Lynchings in the United States decreased more than fifty per cent during 1923 as compared with the record of 1922, according to figures compiled here by Dr. Robert Moton, principal of the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute. During 1923, lynchings numbered 28, as compared with 57 for the year 1922, the statement announced.

Alabama failed to register a single lynching.

Mississippi and Florida led in number of lynchings with eight each, the report found. Seven other states report lynchings as follows: Georgia 4 Arkansas 2, Texas 2, Virginia 1, Missouri 1, Oklahoma 1 and Louisiana 1

Every lynching occurring during the year was in a southern state, it is found according to the report, with twenty six of the number negroes and two whites. Two women were among the victims of mobs.

The report of Dr. Moton further shows that there were 46 instances in which the officers of the law prevented lynchings, forty of these cases being in southern states and six in northern states.

Thirteen of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law seven of the number from jails and six from officers outside of jails.

Seven of the number put to death were charged with rape or attempted rape—one fourth of the total number three were charged with murder; two with murderous assault; two for wounding an officer of the law; others for various violations of law.

were women. Seven of those put to death were charged with rape or attempt rape; one of the victims was burned to death; one was put to death and then the body was burned. The charge against the one burned to death was murder.

The offenses charged against the whites were: participation in strike depredations, 1; being taken as a Negro, 1. The offense charged against the Negroes were: murder, 3; murderous assault, 2; rape, 6; attempted rape, 1; killing officer of the law, 1; wounding officer of the law, 2; no charge reported, 3; assisting man charged with rape to escape, 1; resisting posse searching for man charged with rape, 1; "trying to act like white man and not knowing his place," 1; insulting woman, 1; peeping in window, 1; striking man in altercation, 1.

The nine states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Florida, 8; Georgia, 4; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 8; Missouri, 1; Oklahoma, 1; Texas, 2; Virginia, 1.

Nashville, Ga.
Herald
DEC 31 1923

LYNCHING RECORD SHOWS A SLIGHT DECREASE IN 1923

RECORDS SHOW THAT ONLY TWENTY EIGHT WERE LYNCHED THIS YEAR COMPARED TO 57 LAST YEAR.

Georgia Claims Only 4

Out Of the List There Were Two White Men, Twenty Four Negroes; 2 Women

The following concerning lynchings, for the past year as compiled by the Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research, Monroe N. Work in charge. His report follows:

I find that there were 28 persons lynched in 1923. This is 29 less than the number 57 for the year 1922. Thirteen of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 7 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails.

We also find that there were 46 instances in which officers of the law law prevented lynchings. Four women, 3 white and 1 colored, were among those thus saved. Six of these preventions of lynchings were in Northern States and 40 in Southern States. In 37 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In the 9 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. In 8 instances during the year, persons charged with being connected with lynching mobs were brought to trial. Of the 52 persons thus before the courts only 2 were sent to the penitentiary.

Of the 28 persons lynched in 1923, 26 were negroes and 2 were whites; two of the former were women. 7 or one fourth of those put to death were charged with rape or atempted rape; one of the victims was burned to death; one was put to death and then the body burned. The charge against the one burned to death was was murder.

The offenses charged against the whites were: participation in strike depredations, 1; being taken as a negro 1. The offenses charged against the negroes were murder 3; murderous assault 2; rape 6; attempted rape 1; killing officer of the law 2; wounding officer of the law, ,2; no charge reported 3; assisting men charged with rape to escape, 1; resisting posse searching for man charged with rape 1; cattle stealing 1; "trying to act like white man and not knowing his place," 1; insulting woman 1; peeping in window 1; striking man in altercation 1.

The nine states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas 2; Florida 8; Georgia, 4; Louisiana 1; Mississippi, 8; Missouri 1; Oklahoma 1; Texas 2; Virginia 1.

Dallas, Texas
News
JAN 1 - 1924

LYNCHINGS IN 1923 SHOW BIG DECREASE

RECORDS AT TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE DISCLOSE 28 AGAINST 57 DURING 1922.

Special to The News.

TUSKEGEE, Ala., Dec. 31.—R. Moton, principal of the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute, which was founded by Booker T. Washington for the training negro young men and young women, has given out the following statement:

The following concerning lynchings for the last year is compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the department of records and research, Monroe N. Work in charge: I find that there were 28 persons lynched in 1923. This is 29 less than the number, 57, for the year 1922. Thirteen of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, seven from jails and six from officers of the law outside of jails.

We also find that there were forty-six instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Four women, three white and one colored, were among those thus saved. Six of these preventions of lynchings were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In the nine other instances armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. In eight instances during the year persons charged with being connected with lynching mobs were brought to trial. Of the fifty-two persons thus before the courts, only two were sent to the penitentiary.

Of the twenty-eight persons lynched in 1923, twenty-six were negroes and two were whites; two of the former were women. Seven, or one-fourth of those put to death, were charged with rape or attempted rape, one of the victims was burned to death, one was put to death and then the body was burned. The charge against the one burned to death was murder.

The offenses charged against the whites were participation in strike depredations 1, being taken as a negro 1. The offenses charged against the negroes were murder 3, murderous assault 2, rape 6, attempted rape 1, killing officer of the law 2, wounding officer of the law 2, no charge reported 3, assisting man charged with rape to escape 1, resisting posse searching for man charged with rape 1, cattle stealing 1, "trying to act like white man and not knowing his place" 1, insulting woman 1, peeping in window 1, striking man in altercation 1.

The nine States in which lynchings occurred and the number in each State are as follows: Arkansas 2, Florida 8, Georgia 4, Louisiana 1, Mississippi 8, Missouri 1, Oklahoma 1, Texas 1 and Virginia 1.

Houston, Texas
Post
JAN 2 - 1923

LYNCHINGS IN U. S. DROP 50 PER CENT

Associated Press Report.

TUSKEGEE, Ala., Jan 1.—Lynchings in the United States decreased more than 50 per cent during 1923, as compared with 1922, according to figures made public by the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial institute. During 1923, there were 28 lynchings as compared with 57 for the preceding year, these figpres showed. Twenty-six of the number were negroes and two were whites. Two women were among the victims of mobs.

These figures gave Mississippi and Florida eight lynchings each, Georgis four, Arkansas two, Texas two, Virgina one, Missouri one, Oklahoma one, Louisiana one. None was reported from North Carolina, South Carolina and Alabama, according to the Tuskegee compilation.

ST PAUL MINN DISPATCH
JANUARY 1, 1924

LYNCHINGS IN U. S. CUT.

1923 Total Is 28, Compared With 56 in 1922.

(By Associated Press.)

Tuskegee, Ala., Jan. 1.—Lynchings in the United States decreased more than 50 per cent during 1923, as compared with 1922, according to figures made public by the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial institute.

During 1923 there were twenty-eight lynchings as compared with fifty-seven for the preceding year, these figures showed. Twenty-six of the number were Negroes and two were whites. Two women were among the victims of mobs.

The report gave Mississippi and Florida eight each; Georgia, four; Arkansas, two; Virginia, one; Missouri, one; Oklahoma, one, and Louisiana, one. There were said to have been forty-six instances in 1923 in which officers of the law prevented lynchings.

Thomasville, Ga. Press
Dec 29, 1923

Lynching Record For Past Year

Concerning lynchings for the past year compiled by Tuskegee Institute there were 28 persons lynched in 1923, as against 57 for the year 1922. Thirteen of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 7 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails, 26 were Negroes and 2 were whites; two of the former

Lynchings—1923.
Reports on, Sent Press — Editorial Comments on.

1481

PERHAPS the lynching fever has passed its crisis. In the last decade lynchers have taken the lives of about 60 Americans each year. This number was a rather sharp reduction from the still darker records of twenty years ago, but it showed little tendency to go lower. Only once in the history of the records of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People had it fallen as low as 48. But in 1922, according to the compilation just made public by Tuskegee Institute, 28 persons met their death this way. Two of these were whites, 26 Negroes; of the latter two were women. Only succeeding years can show whether this reduction is mere chance, a temporary reform in the face of threatened legislation, or a new grip on that foundation of all government, law and order. While the killing of 28 persons by mob force is still an anomaly among the civilized nations of the world, the record gives a basis for hope, which is strengthened further by the very real and earnest work toward a better racial readjustment which has been apparent in the South. In addition to the actual lynchings, the Tuskegee compiler has noted 46 instances in which a lynching was prevented by the removal of the prisoner, the strengthening of the prison guard, or the use of armed forces. 40 of these victories were in southern states.

LYNCHING RECORD OF 1923.

I send you the following concerning lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research, Monroe N. Work in charge. I find that there were 28 persons lynched in 1923. This is 29 less than the number 57 for the year 1922. Thirteen of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 7 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails.

We also find that there were 46 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Four women, 3 white and 1 colored, were among those thus saved. Six of these preventions of lynchings were in Northern states and 40 in Southern states. In 37 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In the 9 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. In 8 instances during the year persons charged with being connected with lynching mobs were brought to trial. Of the 52 persons thus before the courts only 2 were sent to the penitentiary.

Of the 28 persons lynched in 1923, 26 were negroes and 2 were whi[te]; two of the former were women or one-fourth of those put to death were charged with rape or attempted rape; one of the victims was burned to death; one was put to death and then the body was burned. The charge against the one burned to death was murder.

The offenses charged against the whites were: participation in strike depredations, 1; being taken as a negro, 1. The offenses charged against the negroes were: murder, 3; murderous assault, 2; rape, 6; attempted rape, 1; killing officer of the law, 2; wounding officer of the law, 2; no charge reported, 3; assisting man charged with rape to escape, 1; resisting posse searching for man charged with rape, 1; cattle stealing, 1; "trying to act like white man and not knowing his place," 1; insulting woman, 1; peeping in window, 1; striking man in altercation, 1.

The nine states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 2; Florida, 8; Georgia, 4; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 8; Missouri, 1; Oklahoma, 1; Texas, 2; Virginia, 1.

Yours very truly,

R. R. Moton,

Principal

Lynchings—1923.
Reports on Sent Press.

Jan.—Dec.

1482

SAN ANTONIO, TEX., EXPRESS
JANUARY 1, 1924

HOW BLOODY THE "BANNER"!

"This has been a banner year in the lynching record!" exclaimed a speaker before a National convention of negroes, the other day.

Indeed? Then the "banner" is bloody and bedraggled, drooping and dolorous and dirty—and shot full of holes.

This morning, the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute's Department of Records and Research accounts for 28 lynchings in 1923—which "is 29 less than the number (57) for the year 1922."

Wonderful!—better than halved!—but alas! since Tuskegee closed that compilation a few days ago, two or three lynchings have been added to the 1923 record. As usual, mob murderers in Florida and in Oklahoma have been on the job. And thereby hangs a tale:

Nineteen hundred and seventeen was a "banner year for lynchings, too: "only" 38 were recorded, as against 54 in the preceding year, and 69 in 1915. Was wartime patriotism acting as a deterrent; was, not the negroes' exodus to northern industrial centers, but their presence in the Army, the Navy, the shipyards, leashing the lynch-mob?

Hardly; for the next year, 1918—in the very heat of our soldiers' battling overseas, meeting the crisis—there were 64 lynchings, and 83 in 1919, and 61 in 1920, and 63 in 1921—and President Wilson meanwhile had begged the Nation to cease giving itself a "Prussian" record in this regard!

* * *

During the past summer, sundry newspaper editors and politicians over the lynching belt indignantly denied that the negroes' wholesale removal to northern and eastern employments was ascribable to the lynching custom or to Ku Klux Klan hatred and intimidation—either or both. Solely the allurements—the false promises of financial, social and creature advantages and comforts—which the "Yankee" employment agents held out, they insisted, moved the negroes hence. Well—there are the comparative figures as to the effect, at any rate, even if they have no bearing on the cause:

Some thirty lynchings in 1923—the year of the record-breaking migration, and also the record-low year of mob murders—as against 57 lynchings in 1922.

The man in the street easily may draw his own conclusion. Is it possible that the pocketbook nerve could turn the trick where the "patriotism" nerve had been tweaked in vain—and by no less a person than the President—and discourage lynchings, from Georgia to Oklahoma?

Howbeit, here is one phase of the 1923 record which is anything but "banner"—anything but encouraging, anything but a strong argument for Southern Senators and Representatives when they again raise their voices against the Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill, in Congress:

> **"In eight instances during the year, persons charged with being connected with lynching mobs were brought to trial. Of the 52 persons thus before the courts, only two were sent to the penitentiary."**

* * *

Obviously, San Antonio Express would be the last to discount either the admirable merit behind, or the stanch effect of, the fact that 40 of the 46 instances in which law-officers prevented lynchings during 1923, are credited to the South. This newspaper heartily honors and applauds the sheriffs and constables and their deputies, and the soldiery, who removed the prisoners to places of safety, or reinforced the guard about the jails, or vanquished the mob with leaden "persuasion." But it insists, as it has reason and right to insist, that there must be the pound of cure where the ounce of prevention does not do the work; that where no brave, honest, duty-bound effort to prevent a lynching is exerted, or where such an effort fails, the lynchers must be punished.

Court officers—judges, prosecutors, jurors—must do their full duty, no less than the executive peace-officers. "Lynching cannot exist where the community does not tolerate it." And—"of the 52 (alleged lynchers) brought to trial during the year, only two were sent to the penitentiary."

There is the most powerful shell possible for the heaviest gun which Representative Dyer of Missouri can wheel into his battle for a Federal anti-lynching law!

* * *

And what of "the unspeakable crime" as a cause of lynchings in 1923? Does it figure as 33 1/3, or even as 30, per cent of the causes—as usual? No; it figures as less than 25 per cent of the motives assigned:

Six consummated attacks and one attempted attack on white women, by negroes—out of some thirty lynchings.

Texas is in the infamous record again, of course. It never has been honorably and inspiringly—and profitably—absent from the annual lynching statistics since these were inaugurated more than a generation ago (1885).

There have been a few years when the bloody "banner" appeared without the names of Florida—even Florida!—Kentucky, Louisiana, Missouri, North Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia and West Virginia; and in 1923, Alabama and South Carolina achieved this high distinction for the first time since 1884—but not Texas, Arkansas, Georgia or Mississippi.

Our State Government still is worried infinitely more about bootleggers and gamblers than about mere murderers—mob murderers—apparently, and not a single member of Texas' two lynch-mobs in 1923 has been dragged to justice.

It is the same old story—but with this somewhat consoling difference:

Texas headed the foul record in 1922, with 18 lynchings; but for 1923 it is charged with two lynchings, disputing fourth place with Arkansas. And one of its lynchings last year was perpetrated in a remarkable quarter—Fayette County.

No; so long as it takes two figures to total the annual record, there will be no "banner year" for lynchings in this country—despite the comparison of 208 mob murders in 1892, and "only" 30 in 1923.

Statesville N.C. Landmark
JAN 3 - 1924

28 PERSONS LYNCHED IN 1923.

This is 29 Less Than in 1922—46 Possible Lynchings Prevented—N. C. Has Clean Record.

Tuskegee Institute, Ala., Jan. 1.—There were 28 persons lynched in 1923. This is 29 less than the number 57 for the year 1922. Thirteen of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 7 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails.

There were 46 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Four women, 3 white and 1 colored, were among those thus saved. Six of these preventions of lynchings were in Northern States and 40 in Southern States. In 37 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In the 9 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. In 8 instances during the year persons charged with being connected with lynching mobs were brought to trial. Of the 52 persons thus before the courts only 2 were sent to the penitentiary.

Of the 28 persons lynched in 1923, 26 were Negroes and 2 were whites; two of the former were women. Seven or one-fourth, of those put to death, were charged with rape or attempted rape; one of the victims was burned to death; one was put to death and then the body was burned. The charge against the one burned to death was murder.

The offenses charged against the whites were: Participation in strike depredations, 1; being taken as a Negro, 1. The offenses charged against the Negroes were: murder, 3; murderous assault, 2; rape, 6; attempted rape, 1; killing officer of the law, 2; wounding officer of the law, 2; no charge reported, 3; assisting man charged with rape to escape, 1; resisting posse searching for man charged with rape, 1; cattle stealing, 1; "trying to act like white man and not knowing his place", 1; insulting woman, 1; peeping in window, 1; striking man in altercation, 1.

The nine States in which lynchings occurred and the number in each State are as follows: Arkansas, 2; Florida, 8; Georgia, 4; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 8; Missouri, 1; Oklahoma, 1; Texas, 2; Virginia, 1.

SAVANNAH, GA., News

JAN 1 - 1924

LYNCHINGS IN U. S. SHOW DECREASE OF OVER FIFTY PER CENT.

GEORGIA HAD ONLY FOUR; OFFICERS SAVED MANY NEGROES.

TUSKEGEE, Ala., Jan. 1.—Lynchings in the United States decreased more than 50 per cent. during 1923 as compared with 1922, according to figures made public by the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute. During 1923 there were twenty-eight lynchings as compared with fifty-seven for the preceding year, these figures showed. Twenty-six of the number were negroes and two whits. Two women were among the victims of the mobs.

These figures gave Mississippi and Florida eight lynchings each, Georgia four, Arkansas two, Texas one, Missouri one, Oklahoma one, Louisiana one. None were reported from North Carolina, South Carolina or Alabama, according to the Tuskegee compilation.

The Tuskegee report says there were forty-six instances during the year in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Forty of these cases were in Southern states and six in Northern states.

Thirteen of those lynched last year were taken from the hands of the law, the report states, seven from jails and six from officers outside the jails. Seven of the victims were charged with attack or attempted attack, three with murder, two with murderous assault, two wounding an officer of the law, and the rest with other offenses.

ALBANY, GA. HERALD

JAN 1 - 1924

LYNCHINGS SHOW BIG DECREASE IN YEAR JUST ENDED

During 1923 There Were 28, as Compared With 57 for 1922—Georgia Had Four.

TUSKEGEE, Ala., Jan. 1.—Lynchings in the United States decreased more than 50 per cent during 1923 as compared with 1922, according to figures made public by the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute. During 1923 there were 28 lynchings as compared with 57 for the preceding year, these figures showed. Twenty-six of the number were negroes and two whites. Two women were among the victims of the mobs.

These figures gave Mississippi and Florida eight lynchings each, Georgia four, Arkansas two, Texas two,

Virginia one, Missouri one, Oklahoma one, Louisiana one. None were reported from North Carolina or South Carolina, according to the Tuskegee compilation.

The Tuskegee report says there were forty-six instances during the year in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Forty of these cases were in Southern states and six in Northern states.

Thirteen of those lynched last year were taken from the hands of the law, the report states, seven from jails and six from officers outside the jails. Seven of the victims were charged with attack or attempted attack, three with murder, two with murderous assault, two for wounding an officer of the law, and the rest with other offenses.

JAMESTOWN N Y POST
JANUARY 1, 1924

DECREASE OF SOUTHERN LYNCHINGS.

For many years the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute, the excellent school for colored young men and women founded by Booker T. Washington, has performed a valuable public service by keeping a record of lynchings and the attendant circumstances. This record, given out at the end of each year and widely published, has attracted public attention to the enormity of the evil and has helped to arouse sentiment against its continuance.

The statistics for 1923 for the first time show a marked decrease in the number of lynchings. There were only 28 persons lynched in 1923, as against 57 in 1922, which is a decrease of 50 per cent. in one year, and that too at a time when there has been a great deal of disrespect for law and order in other directions, notably manifested in a too general contempt for the prohibition laws, and a private prosecution of supposed offenders by the Ku Klux Klan, which is based on much the same spirit toward the negro and others who come under its condemnation as is shown by the lynchers.

Of the 28 persons lynched in 1923, 26 were negroes and two were whites; two of the former were women. Seven or one-fourth of those put to death were charged with rape or attempted rape; one of the victims was burned to death; one was put to death and then the body was burned. The charge against the one burned to death was murder. The offenses charged against the whites were: Participation in strike depredations, 1; being taken as a negro, 1. The offenses charged against the negroes were: Murder, 3; murderous assault, 2; rape, 6; attempted rape, 1; killing officer of the law, 2; wounding officer of the law, 2; no charge reported, 3; assisting man charged with rape to escape, 1; resisting posse searching for man charged with rape to escape, 1; resisting posse searching for man charged with rape, 1; cattle stealing, 1; "trying to act like white man not knowing his place," 1; insulting woman, 1; peeping in window, 1; striking man in altercation, 1. Some of these offenses were trivial and a large majority had no relation to the one crime for which the Southerner justifies lynching.

The nine states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 2; Florida, 8; Georgia, 4; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 8; Missouri, 1; Oklahoma, 1; Texas, 2; Virginia, 1. Mississippi has always a bad pre-eminence in this respect and has the largest negro population in proportion to the whites, but it seems odd to find as many lynchings in Florida, now peopled so largely by Northerners. It is a matter for gratification that the lynching spirit has died out in the North. It is not many years ago that lynchings were frequent in states like Ohio and Illinois where the colored population is large.

There seems to be a better realization of their responsibility on the part of officers of the law than formerly when negro prisoners were surrendered to mobs without much effort at defense. While thirteen of the 28 lynched in 1923 were taken from jails or officers of the law outside, there were 46 instances reported in which the officers prevented lynchings. Four women, three of them white, were saved from the lynchers in this way Of the 46 preventions reported, 40 were in the South, showing that Southern officers realize their duty, which doubtless reflects a better public sentiment in that section. In nine cases, armed forces were used to repel the lynchers, but in the great majority the prisoners were removed or the guards strengthened.

Not much progress is being made in the punishment of lynchers. While in eight cases persons charged with complicity in lynching were brought to trial, the prosecutions involving 52 individuals, there were only two sent to the penitentiary. Lynching must be punished as a crime before it will be possible to wipe it out.

SAN ANTONIO, TEX., EXPRESS
JANUARY 1, 1924

LYNCHING RECORD FOR 1923

To the Editor of San Antonio Express:
I send you the following concerning lynchings for the past year, as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research, Monroe N. Work in charge.

I find that there were 28 persons lynched in 1923.

This is 29 less than the number (57) for the year 1922.

Thirteen of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 7 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails.

We also find that there were 46 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings.

Four women—3 white and 1 colored—were among those thus saved.

Six of these preventions of lynchings were in Northern States and 40 in Southern States.

In 37 of the cases the prisoners were removed, or the guards augmented, or other precautions taken.

In the 9 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers.

In 8 instances during the year, persons charged with being connected with lynching mobs were brought to trial.

Of the 52 persons thus before the courts, only 2 were sent to the penitentiary.

Of the 28 persons lynched, 26 were negroes and 2 were whites; 2 of the former were women.

Seven, or one-fourth of those put to death, were charged with rape or attempted rape.

One of the victims was burned to death; 1 was put to death and then the body was burned.

The charge against the 1 burned to death was murder.

The offenses charged against the whites were:

Participation in strike depredations, 1; being taken as a negro, 1.

The offenses charged against the negroes were:

Murder, 3; murderous assault, 2; rape, 6; attempted rape, 1; killing officer of the law, 2; wounding officer of the law, 2; no charge reported, 3; assisting man charged with rape to escape, 1; resisting posse searching for man charged with rape, 1; cattle-stealing, 1; "trying to act like white man and not knowing his place", 1; insulting woman, 1; peeping in window, 1; striking man in altercation, 1.

The 9 States in which lynchings occurred, and the number in each State, are as follows:

Arkansas, 2; Florida, 8; Georgia, 4; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 8; Missouri, 1; Oklahoma, 1; Texas, 2; Virginia, 1.

ROBERT R. MOTON,
Principal, Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute.
Tuskegee Institute, Alabama.

ATLANTA, GA
Journal of Labor
JAN 25 1924

FEWEST LYNCHINGS IN FORTY YEARS

That the lynching record for 1923, numbering 28 victims, is the lowest in the forty years during which the records have been kept and is only about one-third as high as the average for that period, is the statement of the Commission on Inter-racial Cooperation, with headquarters in this city. The next lowest record was 38 in 1917, the highest was 255 in 1892, and the average for the forty-year period has been 109. The commission points out also that the area affected is steadily being reduced, from 33 states in 1892 to nine last year. The commission believes that public sentiment and faithful officials are determined to put an end to lynchings.

On the other hand the discouraging fact is pointed out that local courts last year failed almost utterly to apprehend and punish the members of mobs. In only three of the 1923 cases, so far as the commission could learn, were any arrests made or indictments returned. In two of these cases no convictions were secured. Results in the third case have not been learned. Repeated inquiries of local officials failed to reveal any other legal action, beyond fruitless grand jury investigations.

The difficulty of securing evidence and convictions in such cases, says the commission, indicates the need in several states of special preventive legislation. Among the suggested measures, which have proved effective in other states, are provisions for removal of officers who surrender prisoners, the fining of counties where lynchings occur, and a state constabulary under control of the governor.

STARTANBURG, S. C.
Journal
JAN 1 - 1924

BIG DECREASE IN LYNCHINGS IN U. S.

Figures Compiled By Tuskegee Institute Show Fifty Per Cent Reduction During Year 1923.

TUSKEGEE, Ala., Jan. 1.—Lynchings in the United States decreased more than 50 per cent during 1923 as compared with 1922, according to figures made public by the Turkegee Normal and Industrial Institute. During 1923 there were 28 lynchings as compared with 57 for the preceding year, these figures showed. Twenty-six of the number were negroes and two whites. Two women were among the victims of the mob.

These figures gave Mississippi and Florida 8 lynchings each, Georgia 4, Arkansas 2, Texas 2, Virginia, 1, Missouri 1, Oklahoma 1, Louisiana 1 None was reported from North Carolina, South Carolina or Alabama, according to the Tuskegee compilation.

The Tuskegee report says there were 46 instances during the year in which officers of the law prevented lynchings, 40 of these cases were in Southern states and 6 in Northern states.

Thirteen of those lynched last year were taken from the hands of the law, the report stated, seven from jails and six from officers outside of jails. Seven of the victims were charged with attack or attempted attack, three with murder, two with murderous assault, two for wounding an officer of the law and the rest with other offenses.

Lynchings – 1923.
Reports on, Sent Press,

Jan. – Dec.

1483

CHATTANOOGA, TENN. News
JAN 1 1924

LYNCHINGS DECREASE.

Number in 1924 Less Than Half Those in 1923, Tuskegee Institute Records Show.

To the Editor of The Observer.

I send you the following concerning lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research, Monroe N. Work in charge. I find that there were 28 persons lynched in 1923. This is 29 less than the number 57 for the year 1922. Thirteen of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, seven from jails and six from officers of the law outside of jails.

We also find that there were 46 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Four women, three white and one colored, were among thus saved. Six of these preventions of lynchings were in Northern States and 40 in Southern States. In 37 cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In the nine other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. In eight instances during the year persons charged with being connected with lynching mobs were brought to trial. Of the 52 persons thus before the courts only two were sent to the penitentiary.

Of the 28 persons lynched in 1923, 26 were negroes and two were whites; two of the former were women. Seven or one fourth of those put to death were charged with rape or attempted rape; one of the victims was burned to death; one was put to death and then the body was burned. The charge against the one burned to death was murder.

The offenses charged against the whites were: Participation in strike depredations, 1; being taken as a negro, 1. The offenses charged against the negroes were: murder, 3; murderous assault, 2; assault, 6; attempted assault, 1; killing officer of the law, 2; wounding officer of the law, 2; no charge reported, 3; assisting man charged with assault to escape, 1; resisting posse searching for man charged with rape, 1; cattle stealing, 1; "trying to act like white man and not knowing his place," 1; insulting woman, 1; peeping in window, 1; striking man in altercation, 1.

The nine states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 2; Florida, 8; Georgia, 4; Louisiana 1; Mississippi, 8; Missouri, 1; Oklahoma, 1; Texas, 2; Virginia, 1.

Yours very truly,
R. R. MOTON, Principal
Tuskegee Institute, Ala.

JAN. 1 - 1924

LYNCHINGS SHOW BIG DECREASE

Figures Compiled at Tuskegee Institute Highly Gratifying.

Tuskegee, Ala., Jan. 1.—(By A. P.)—Lynchings in the United States decreased more than 50 per cent during 1923 as compared with the record of 1922, according to figures compiled here by Dr. Robert Moton, principal of the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial institute. During 1923, lynchings numbered twenty-eight as compared with fifty-seven for the year 1922, the statement announced.

Mississippi and Florida led in number of lynchings with eight each, the report found. Seven other states report lynchings as follows: Georgia, 4; Arkansas, 2; Texas, 2; Virginia, 1; Missouri, 1; Oklahoma, 1, and Louisiana, 1.

Every lynching occurring during the year was in a southern state, it is found, according to the report, with twenty-six of the number negroes and two whites. Two women were among the victims of mobs.

The report of Dr. Moton further showed that there were forty-six instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings, forty of these cases being in southern states and six in northern states.

Thirteen of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, seven of the number from jails and six from officers outside of jails, it is said.

Seven of the number put to death were charged with rape—or attempted rape—one-fourth of the total number; three were charged with murder; two with murderous assault; two for wounding an officer of the law; other for various violations of law.

Neither Tennessee nor Alabama had a lynching last year.

28 LYNCHINGS IN 1923

The Guardian

Decrease of One-half Compared With 1922—Miss. an Florida Lead With Eight Each—Two Women Lynched Labor Migration Chief Cause of Decrease

1-5-24

Boston, Mass.

Tuskegee, Ala., Jan. 1, 1924—Lynchings in the United States decreased more than 50 per cent during 1923, as compared with 1922, according to figures made public by the Tuskegee Norman and Industrial Institute. During 1923 there were 28 lynchings compared with 57 for the preceding year, these figures showed. Twenty-six of the number were Colored and two were whites. Two women were among the victims of mobs.

These figures gave Mississippi and Florida eight lynchings each. Georgia four, Arkansas two, Texas two, Virginia one, Missouri one, Oklahoma one, Louisiana one. None were reported from North Carolina, South Carolina and Alabama, according to the Tuskegee compilation.

The Tuskegee report says there were 46 instances during the year in which officers of the law prevented lynchings, 40 of these being in Southern states, and six in Northern states.

Thirteen of those lynched last year were taken from the hands of the law, the report states, seven from jails and six from officers outside of jails. Seven of the victims were charged with atack or atempted attack, three with murder, two with murderous assault, two for wounding an officer of the law, and the rest with other offenses.

NEW YORK CITY HERALD
JANUARY 1, 1924

MOTON SAYS LYNCHINGS DROPPED A HALF IN 1923

57 Were Put to Death in 1922 and Only 28 in 1923.

TUSKEGEE, Ala., Dec. 31.—R. R. Moton, principal of the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute, has issued his annual statement on lynchings in the United States. He says:

"I find that there were twenty-eight persons lynched in 1923. This is twenty-nine less than the number fifty-siven for the year 1922. Thirteen of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, seven from jails, and six from officers of the law outside of jails.

"There were forty-six instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Four women, three white and one colored, were among those thus saved. Six of these preventions of lynchings were in Northern States and forty in Southern States. In thirty-seven of the cases the prisoners were removed or guards augmented or other precautions taken. In the nine other instances armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. In eight instances during the year persons charged with being connected with lynching mobs were brought to trial. Of the fifty-two persons thus before the courts only two were sent to the penitentiary.

"Of the twenty-eight persons lynched in 1923, twenty-six were negroes and two were whites; two of the former were women. The nine States in which lynchings occured and the number in each State are as follows: Arkansas, two; Florida, eight; Georgia, four; Louisiana, one; Mississippi, eight; Missouri, one; Oklahoma, one; Texas, two; Virginia, one."

From CHRISTIAN ADVOCATE
DEC 31 1923

923 LYNCHINGS SHOW DECREASE OF 29 OVER 1922

Figures concerning lynchings in the nited States during the year 1923, s compiled by the Tuskegee Institute the Department of Records and Research, Monroe N. Work in charge, how that there were 28 persons lynched during the past year. This is 29 less han for the year 1922. Thirteen of he persons lynched were taken from ails and six from officers of the law utside of jails.

There were 46 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Four women, three white and one colored, were among those thus saved. Six of the preventions were in northern states and 40 in southern states.

Of the 28 persons lynched in 1923, 26 were negroes and two were whites. Two of the former were women.

The nine states in which the lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 2; Florida, 8; Georgia, 4; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 8; Missouri, 1; Oklahoma, 1; Texas, 2; Virginia, 1.

KANSAS CITY MO STAR
JANUARY 1, 1924

INGS REDUCED BY HALF.

ty-Eight Mob Victims in 1923, nly Two Were Whites.

TUSKEGEE, ALA., Jan. 1.—Lynchings in the United States decreased more than 50 per cent in 1923, as compared with 1922, according to figures made public by the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute. In 1923 there were 28 lynchings as compared with 57 for the preceding year, these figures showed. Twenty-six of the number were negroes and two were whites. Two women were among the victims of mobs.

These figures gave Mississippi and Florida eight lynchings each, Georgia four, Arkansas two, Texas two, Virginia one, Missouri one, Oklahoma one, Louisiana one. None was reported from North Carolina, South Carolina or Alabama, according to the Tuskegee compilation.

The Tuskegee report says there were forty-six instances in the year in which officers of the law prevented lynchings, forty of these cases being in southern states and six in northern states.

RALEIGH, N. C.
News
DEC 28 1923

ONE THING THAT HAS PREVENTED LYNCHING

The country is writing on the latest Tuskegee report which shows that there were only 26 lynchings in the nation for 1923.

The metropolitan press seeks to make it appear that the migration of the blacks has been of such magnitude as to frighten the South into greater liberality toward them, a view wholly justified by the foolish reports sent out over the past year. But we do not recall any great effort of the people anxious to see some sort of distribution of the race issue to hold the negro here.

The greatest contributing cause to this reduction is the negro himself. He isn't the sole cause of lynchings and the South isn't the only savage section when a revolting crime is committed. But the black man is doing a good deal to improve his behavior and he is lessening the likelihood of getting lynched.

Then Southern governors and officers are taking greater precaution when these crimes are committed. The execution of Lee Washington today would probably have been another story but for the action of Governor Morrison sending troops quickly to Nashville. It is true that the county officers did not like it, but the governor did his duty. The officers take their positions a trifle more seriously.

Fewer crimes are committed in times of national "normalcy." One of the greatest periods of peace and quiet was President Taft's administration. There was not a lynching in North Carolina during those four years and Governor Kitchin accounted this the highest accomplishment of his four years. The troops were several times called out and the State was not free from some awful

deeds, but the country was on no emotional spree and better contained itself.

This, doubtless, explains the 26 lynchings which are announced as the present year's record. It is the lowest in 20 years by more than 30 per cent and is of course hopeful.

Columbus, Ga. Enquirer-Sun

JAN 3 - 1924

Concerning the Decrease in the Number of Lynchings.

It is gratifying to note, according to the record kept by the Tuskegee Institute, one of the finest educational institutions for the negro in the country, that there was a decrease in the number of lynchings in the United States last year of a little more than 50 per cent, as compared with the year 1922.

The record shows only 28 people were lynched during 1923, as against 57 in 1922. The number of lynched persons taken from the hands of the law the past year was 13, seven of them from jails and six from officers in charge.

The vigilance of officers is credited with the prevention of 46 lynchings, among those saved being four women, three white, and a negress. Six of the prevented lynchings were in the North and forty in the South. Only two white persons were included in the number lynched last year, the remaining twenty-six being negroes. Georgia had only four lynchings. South Carolina has no lynchings marked up against her.

There are doubtless a number of reasons for the decrease in the number of lynchings. At first hand the thought occurs that there has been progress along educational lines—that as ignorance is combated there is a tendency toward a decrease in the number of crimes which too often lead to lynching, and the other is the force of public opinion which is no longer lenient in its condemnation of lynch lawlessess. But there may be other reasons—one intangible and perhaps subconscious, and the other a practical condition; the first refers to the introduction of the Dyer anti-lynching bill, and the second to the fact that the negro exodus has taken from the South hundreds of thousands of negroes. It is true that the Dyer anti-lynching bill was defeated, but during the discussion which arose the subject of lynching was thoroughly aired, and this lawlessness was universally condemned; and a potent factor was the possibility that a federal law *might* result if the lynching problem were not given more attention in the South. The emigration of negroes not only decreased the lynchable portion of our population but it also suggested to all but the most stupid that unless the negro received fairer treatment and is given justice, and trial by law, the number of negroes will continue to decrease.

Another fact that the white population of the lynching zone is beginning to observe is that the *one* crime which in the past was regarded as furnishing a moral excuse for an illegal act, has ceased to be the only one that causes lynchings. It is as often the case that other crimes lead to lynching; and not infrequently the crime for which a negro is lynched is not a capital crime, but one for which the severest penalty of the law is only a few years' imprisonment.

In any event, it is to be hoped that the report for 1923 is an indication of a genuine reform in the matter of lynching—that apart from all other considerations, the people of the South are beginning to realize that lynching a man is merely a form of murder; and that after all the law represents mankind's highest effort toward giving and receiving justice.

There is not now and there never has been any excuse for lynching, which is a crime under the law, and usually committed by members of the race which is responsible for the laws; for white people not only make the law; but they elect the officers to enforce it, and they are, if anything, more in honor bound to observe and respect it than the man who has nothing to do with either its making or its enforcement.

Atlanta, Ga.
Christian Index

JAN 3 - 1924

LYNCHING RECORD OF 1923.

I send you the following concerning lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research, Monroe N. Work in charge. I find that there were 28 persons lynched in 1923. This is 29 less than the number 57 for the year 1922. Thirteen of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 7 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails.

We also find that there were 46 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Four women, 3 white and 1 colored, were among those thus saved. Six of these preventions of lynchings were in Northern states and 40 in Southern states. In 37 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In the 9 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. In 8 instances during the year persons charged with being connected with lynching mobs were brought to trial. Of the 52 persons thus before the courts only 2 were sent to the penitentiary.

Of the 28 persons lynched in 1923, 26 were negroes and 2 were whites; two of the former were women. 7 or one-fourth of those put to death were charged with rape or attempted rape; one of the victims was burned to death; one was put to death and then the body was burned. The charge against the one burned to death was murder.

The offenses charged against the whites were: participation in strike depredations, 1; being taken as a negro, 1. The offenses charged against the negroes were: murder, 3; murderous assault, 2; rape, 6; attempted rape, 1; killing officer of the law, 2; wounding officer of the law, 2; no charge reported, 3; assisting man charged with rape to escape, 1; resisting posse searching for man charged with rape, 1; cattle stealing, 1; "trying to act like white man and not knowing his place," 1; insulting woman, 1; peeping in window, 1; striking man in altercation, 1.

The nine states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 2; Florida, 8; Georgia, 4; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 8; Missouri, 1; Oklahoma, 1; Texas, 2; Virginia, 1.

Yours very truly,
R. R. Moton,
Principal.

Nashville, Tenn.
Tennessean.
DEC 29 1923

The Lynching Record.

The 1923 lynching record compiled by Tuskegee Institute cuts the 1922 record squarely in half. This marks progress. We must push on.

The 28 lynchings for the year were confined to nine states and two of them—Florida and Mississippi with eight each—account for more than half of the whole number. Georgia, for once at least, does not head the column, and Tennessee is conspicuous by her absence from the list.

However, the 1923 record is an indictment against the South alone, as Missouri and Oklahoma, each with one offense, may be fairly included in the Southern States.

And it is the entire South which must bear the stigma of the indictment—the good states with the bad.

Lynchings are a challenge to a state's capacity to enforce the law. Lynchings can be prevented. It has been proven time and again in this state and in neighboring states that where there is a sheriff with the determination to uphold the law and a state government supporting him the mob fails.

If the truth were known, the majority of our lynchings may be traced to one of two causes: Cowardly officials or official sympathy with the mob. Either constitutes a direct repudiation of the oath of office, but in many sections, unfortunately, this repudiation is regarded lightly or not at all.

Taking the figures of 1923 and placing them beside the figures for 1922 it may be said that here is cause for congratulation. In a sense that is true. But in another sense it is a glaring admission of official failure. If we could cut the total of illegal deaths in half, it can be asked with all frankness why we could not prevent lynchings altogether.

Lynching can be stopped. The states must stop it or the federal government will. We do not want federal interference. But we will be powerless to prevent it unless we measure up to the obligations which self-government imposes upon us.

DAYTON O. NEWS
JANUARY 1, 1924

PEOPLE'S FORUM

YEAR'S LYNCHING RECORDS.

Editor Daily News: I send you the following concerning lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute, the department of records and research, Monroe N. Work in charge. I find that there were 28 persons lynched in 1923. This is 29 less than the number 57 for the year 1922. Thirteen of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 7 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails.

We also find that there were 46 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Four women, 3 white and 1 colored, were among those thus saved. Six of these preventions of lynchings were in northern states and 40 in southern states. In 37 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In the 9 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. In 8 instances during the year persons charged with being connected with lynching mobs were brought to trial. Of the 52 persons thus before the courts only 2 were sent to the penitentiary.

Of the 28 persons lynched in 1923, 26 were negroes and 2 were whites; two of the former were women. Seven or one-fourth of those put to death; one was put to death and then the body was burned. The charge against the one burned to death was murder.

The offenses charged against the whites were: participation in strike depredations, 1; being taken as a negro, 1. The offenses charged against the negroes were: murder, 3; murderous assault, 2; rape, 6; attempted rape, 1; killing officer of the law, 2; wounding officer of the law, 2; no charge reported, 3; assisting man charged with rape to escape, 1; resisting posse searching for man charged with rape, 1; cattle stealing, 1; "trying to act like white man and not knowing his place," 1; insulting woman, 1; peeping in window, 1; striking man in altercation, 1.

The nine states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 2; Florida, 8; Georgia, 4; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 8; Missouri, 1; Oklahoma, 1; Texas, 2; Virginia, 1.

R. R. MOTON, Principal,
Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute.
Tuskegee, Ala., Dec. 31.

Lynchings - 1923.
Reports and Sent Press.

Jan.—Dec.

1484

Kingston, N.C. Free
JAN 2 - 1924

THE LYNCHING RECORD ENCOURAGING.

The lynching record for the year 1923, as compiled by the Tuskegee Institute, shows a very encouraging decrease over the preceding year. There were less than half the victims of mob violence in 1923 as compared with 1922; the exact number being 28 in 1923 against 57 in the preceding year. The 28 lynchings occurred in nine states, seven of which were strictly of the Southern division and two of the border states. Florida and Mississippi vied with each other for "top score," as the society editor would say, with eight each, while Georgia followed with four each; Arkansas and Texas with two each, Louisiana, Missouri, Oklahoma and Virginia with one each. The "honor roll" states in the South which had no mob violence were: North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee and Alabama. The causes of the lynchings ranged from the most heinous crime in the catalogue to minor infractions. One negro was lynched allegedly for "trying to act like a white man and not knowing his place." Another was dealt with for striking a man in an altercation.

Of course twenty-eight lynchings is an unenviable record; it's evidence that there were twenty-eight instances in the country last year where self-control was lost and indefensible mob violence was practiced, but the comparative record, as before stated, is most encouraging and heartening. Those sectional fire-eaters who advance upon Congress periodically and attempt to have some federal legislation enacted purporting to stop lynching, can get food for thought in the statistics for 1923. If they are open minded on the subject, they cannot help but be impressed with the fact that sentiment against lynching is growing very rapidly and that the prevention of forty-six attempted lynchings last year is evidence that the state authorities are meeting with encouraging results in coping with such outlawry. Those carpers whose efforts aggravate rather than mitigate should desist if they honestly propose to improve the situation.

EL PASO TEX. TIMES
JANUARY 2, 1924

An Encouraging Improvement.

Lynchings in 1922, 57.
Lynchings in 1923, 28.

Such figures tell their own story. As a nation, we have worked during the past 12 months considerably nearer the ideal and the practice of legal justice. If we can manage but to hold this rate of decrease in the supreme crime of mob violence, lynching will cease within a decade to be the national vice and the most serious reproach to American civilization in the eyes of the world.

The way is not hard. Last year officers of the la prevented lynchings on 46 occasions, according to t figures of the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Inst tute. If officers of the law, as thoroughly determin and courageous officers could have done, had prevent lynchings on 74 occasions, there would have been no lynchings at all in 1923. Public sentiment unquestionably must have bettered itself on the question to have secured such a distinct improvement, but courageous law enforcement against lynching mobs will help public sentiment to make more progress in 1924.

Various related factors have unquestionably influenced the lynching situation for the better during 1923. In the south the negro exodus has led to a strong pressure from intelligent southern opinion against all crimes, lynching most of all, which have tended to make the negro dissatisfied with his lot in his native section. Perhaps threats of federal anti-lynching legislation had a good influence. On the other hand, the negro has no doubt adjusted himself again to normal conditions in his home community following the unsettling influence of his war experience. Moreover, the shortage of labor over many parts of the south, due to the northward exodus, must have given a large number of negroes more work to do than usual, and more pay for their work, so that they got into less mischief through idleness and desperate poverty.

One gratifying feature of the report is that, in spite of the race problem perplexities imposed upon many northern communities by the exodus, no lynchings occurred in a northern state in 1923. Although enough lynchings have occurred in the old "free states" in the past to prove that the crime does not represent a peculiar vice of the southern temperament, all patriotic southerners will rejoice that the north sets a good example, particularly now that the race problems of many northern communities have come to approximate those of the south.

Most of all, Texas can feel gratified at her showing in the report, although the fact that two lynchings occurred during the past year in the state makes it impossible for us to take pride in it. But two is a vast improvement over the 18 Texas lynchings of 1922. The horror with which these disgraceful figures was received by Texans of all classes a year ago must have been wholesome.

Hickory, N.C. Times
JAN - 8 1924

Lynchings in U. S. Decrease 50 Per Cent

Tuskegee, Ala., Jan. 1.—Lynchings in the United States decreased more than 150 per cent in 1923 as compared with 1922, according to figures issued by the Tuskegee normal and industrial institute today. During 1923 there were 28 lynchings as compared to 57 the preceding year, these figures showed. Twenty-six of the number were negroes and two whites. Two women were among the victims of the mobs.

These figures gave Mississippi and Florida eight lynchings each; Georgia, four; Arkansas and Texas, two each; Virginia, one; Missouri, one; Oklahoma, one; Louisiana, one. None were reported from North Carolina, South Carolina or Alabama, according to the Tuskegee compilation.

The Tuskegee report showed there were 46 instances during the year in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Forty of these cases were in southern states and six in northern states.

Thirteen of those lynched last year were taken from the hands of the law, the report stated, seven from jails and six from officers outside of jails. Seven of the victims were charged with attack or attempted attack, three with murder, two with murderous assault, two with wounding an officer of the law, and the rest with other offenses.

CHATTANOOGA TIMES News
JAN 1 - 1924

FEWER LYNCHINGS

According to records kept at Tuskegee institute, the number of lynchings in the country for 1923 was twenty-eight. That is twenty-nine below the total of sixty-seven for the year previous, or slightly less than half. And, inasmuch as the reduction was apparently not a mere happen-so, the showing gives encouragement. There were numerous attempts or threats of lynchings which were foiled through the vigilance and activity of officers of the law. In this latter connection it may be said that officers frequently remove prisoners from the community of their alleged crime as a precaution of safety, even when no commotion is noted.

Florida and Mississippi head the list in the record of lynchings with eight each. Such a large number would seem to indicate a lack of energetic measures of prevention. Most southern states are grappling with the evil, however, and are accomplishing gratifying results. We believe that the overwhelming sentiment of the better people of the south is against this barbarous practice and anxious to secure its amelioration. Such opinion inevitably finds its reflex in the more determined attitude of governors and lesser officials who have to do with the enforcement of the law. And such a feeling, we believe, will continue and grow stronger.

It was perhaps to be expected that a certain meddling "society" in the east would claim credit for the very great improvement which the reports indicate. But such a claim has little foundation. That society's attitude has been so manifestly hostile toward the white people of the south as to make co-operation with it out of the question. Its attempts to intervene in the trial of cases where the guilt of the accused was notorious have only provoked popular resentment. Moreover, it never seems over-scrupulous about obtaining the facts. It practically assumes that any prosecution of a negro is persecution.

We are especially pleased that not a single lynching occurred last year in Tennessee. There have been very few in the last half a dozen years. Our officials are to be commended for their vigilance. Perhaps an even greater reason for felicitation, however, is found in the fact that lynchings are now seldom attempted in Tennessee. Our people favor the enforcement and the equal protection of the law.

Tifton, Ga., Gazette
1-1-24

ONLY 28 LYNCHINGS DURING YEAR 1923

Less Than Half of Number for 1922. Mississippi and Florida Had eight Each.

Tuskeegee, January 1.—Lynchings in the United States decreased more than 50 per cent during 1923 as compared with 1922, according to figures made public today by the Tuskee Normal and Industrial Institute.

During 1923, there were 28 lynchings compared with 57 for the preceding year. Twenty-six were negroes and two were whites. Mississippi and Florida led with eight lynchings each. Georgia was second with four.

LYNCHINGS DECREASE 50 PER CENT IN 1923

The annual summary of mob activities, as tabulated by Tuskegee Institute through its Department of Records and Research, shows that 1923 was marked by a reduction in number of lynchings of more than fifty per cent. Only 28 persons were murdered by mobs as against 57 during 1922, or 29 less.

Seven persons were taken from jails and six from officers, a total of 13 taken from hands of the law. Twenty-six Negroes and two whites were killed, two of the Negroes being women. One-fourth of the 28, seven, were charged with rape or attempted rape; one victim, charged with murder, was burned to death and one body was burned after death.

One white was charged with strike depredations, the other for being taken as a Negro. The Negroes were charged: murder, 3; assault, 2; rape, 6; attempted rape, 1; kiling officer, 2; wounding officer, 2; no charge reported, 3; assisting man charged with rape to escape, 1; resisting posse searching for man charged with rape, 1; cattle stealing, 1; "trying to act like white man and not knowing his place," 1; insulting woman, 1; peeping in window, 1; striking man in altercation, 1. The states in which the lynchings occurred were Arkansas, 2; Florida, 8; Georgia, 4; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 8; Missouri, 1; Oklahoma, 1; Texas, 2; Virginia, 1.

Lynchings were prevented in 46 cases, six in northern and forty in southern states. In nine instances armed force was used against the wouldbe lynchers. Four women, 3 white and 1 colored, were saved. In eight instances 52 persons were tried for taking part in mobs and two were sent to the penitentiary.

Two of the 28 persons lynched were white, two of the remaining 26 were women. Seven were charged with rape. One was burned to death, another was killed and then his body burned. Other charges were, murder 3; murderous assault, 2; killing an officer of the law, 2; wounding an officer of the law, 2; no charge reported, 3; assisting man charged with rape to escape, 1; resisting posse searching for man charged with rape, 1; cattle stealing, 1; "trying to act like white man and not knowing his place," 1; insulting woman, 1; peeping in window, 1; striking man in altercation, 1; participation in strike depredations, 1 (white); white man mistaken for Race man.

Florida and Mississippi tied for honors with 8 lynchings apiece; Georgia, 4; Arkansas and Texas, 2 each; Louisiana, Oklahoma, Missouri and Virginia had 1 each.

This report, however, only covers the lynchings that were given newspaper publicity throughout the year. If an actual record of wholesale killings in the South were made the number, at a conservative estimate, would total over 300.

UNPUBLISHED MURDERS NOT LISTED IN LYNCH REPORT

The report of lynchings in the United States as compiled and sent out by the department of records and research, Tuskegee institute, Monroe N. Work in charge, is as follows: Twenty-eight persons were lynched in 1923. This is 29 less than the 57 of 1922. Thirteen of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, seven from jails and six from officers of the law outside the jails.

There were also 46 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings; six were in the Northern states and 40 in the South. Four women, three of whom were white were saved from the hands of mobs. In eight instances during the year persons charged with being connected with lynching mobs were brought to trial. During these eight instances 52 persons were before the courts; two were sentenced to the penitentiary.

NO LYNCHINGS IN ALABAMA.

The lynching record by States for 1923, as collected and published by Tuskegee Institute, is cause for great gratification to Alabamians. It appears that there was not one single instance of successful mob violence in Alabama last year.

Arkansas had 2, Florida 8, Georgia 4, Louisiana 1, Mississippi 8, Missouri 1, Oklahoma 1, Texas 2, and Virginia 1—and Alabama none!

Commenting upon the distinction which has thus come to Alabama, and upon the question of lynching in general, the Gadsden Times-News says:

> Of the 28 persons lynched, 26 were negroes. This is about the usual proportion and the reduction in the number of instances of these violent and unlawful acts may be in some measure accounted for by the efforts to bring about a better understanding between the whites and the negroes.
>
> If the fact is recognized that the two races cannot mingle on an equal plane and the sincere efforts to better the condition of the negro and to bring about better understanding between the two races is continued there is only one other thing left which works against the stamping out of the lynching evil. That is the slowness of the courts.
>
> Slow court action is not really an excuse which would justify lynching, yet it is the reason given in many lynching cases. Speeding up the courts and taking legal action where crimes are charged will do much to stop illegal action, in the form of lynching.

Juries are slower to convict participants in mobs than they are to try men whose acts inflame mobs. In Alabama juries are no more determined to punish lynchers than in other States, but for a generation it has been the good fortune of the State to have Governors who did not hesitate to force the removal of sheriffs who failed in their duty in the face of mobs.

Another reason for the good showing which Alabama made in 1923 is that relations between white and black have not been better since before the War Between the States.

TUSKEGEE INST., GIVES OUT LYNCHING RECORD

TUSKEGEE INST., Ala., Jan. 2.—According to the records compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research, Monroe N. Work in charge, there were 28 persons lynched in 1923. This is 29 less than the number 58 for the year 1922. Thirteen of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 7 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails.

There were 46 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Four women, 3 white and 1 Colored, were among those thus saved. Six of these preventions of lynchings were in Northern States and 40 in Southern States. In 37 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In the 9 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. In 8 instances during the year persons charged with being connected with lynching mobs were brought to trial. Of the 52 persons thus before the courts only 2 were sent to the penitentiary.

Of the 28 persons lynched in 1923 26 were Negroes and 2 were whites; two of the former were women; 7 or one fourth of those put to death were charged with rape or attempted rape; one of the victims was burned to death; one was put to death and then the body burned. The charge against the one burned to death was murder.

The offenses charged against the whites were: participation in strike depredations, 1; being taken as a Negro, 1. The offenses charged against the Negroes were: murder, 3; murderous assault, 2; rape, 6; attempted rape, 1; killing officer of the law, 2; wounding officer of the law, 2; no charge reported, 3; assisting man charged with rape to escape, 1; resisting posse searching for man charged with rape, 1; cattle stealing, 1; "trying to act like white man and not knowing his place," 1; insulting woman, 1; peeping in window, 1; striking man in altercation 1.

The nine states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 2; Florida, 8; Georgia, 4; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 8; Missouri, 1; Oklahoma. 1; Texas, 2; Virginia, 1.

NO LYNCHING FOR ALABAMA IN 1923

State Has Clear Record In Total Which Shows Big Reductions

TUSKEGEE, ALA., Jan. 1.—By The Associated Press.—Lynchings in the United States decreased more than fifty per cent during 1923 as compared with the record of 1922, according to figures compiled here by Dr. Robert Moton, principal of the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute. During 1923, lynchings numbered 28, as compared with 57 for the year 1922, the statement announced.

Alabama failed to register a single lynching.

Mississippi and Florida led in number of lynchings with eight each, the report found. Seven other states report lynchings as follows: Georgia 4, Arkansas 2, Texas 2, Virginia 1, Missouri 1, Oklahoma 1 and Louisiana 1.

Every lynching occurring during the year was in a southern state, it is found according to the report, with twenty six of the number negroes and two whites. Two women were among the victims of mobs.

The report of Dr. Moton further shows that there were 46 instances in which the officers of the law prevented lynchings, forty of these cases being in southern states and six in northern states.

Thirteen of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, seven of the number from jails and six from officers outside of jails.

Seven of the number put to death were charged with rape or attempted rape—one fourth of the total number; three were charged with murder; two with murderous assault; two for wounding an officer of the law; others for various violations of law.

DROP IN LYNCHINGS IN UNITED STATES

Decrease of More Than Fifty Per Cent. Shown in Year's Record

Tuskegee, Ala., Jan. 1.—Lynchings in the United States decreased more than 50 per cent. during 1923 as compared with 1922, according to figures made public by the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial institute. During 1923 there were 28 lynchings as compared with 57 for the preceding year. These figures showed. Twenty-six of the number were negroes and two whites. Two women were among the victims of mobs.

These figures gave Mississippi and Florida eight lynchings each, Georgia 4; Arkansas 2; Texas 2; Virginia 1; Missouri 1; Oklahoma 1; Louisiana 1. None were reported from North Carolina, South Carolina, and Alabama, according to the Tuskegee compilation.

The Tuskegee report says there were 46 instances during the year in which officers of the law prevented lynchings, 40 of these cases were in Southern states and six in Northern states.

Thirteen of those lynched last year were taken from the hands of the law, the report stated, seven from jails and six from officers outside of jails. Seven of the victims were charged with attack or attempted attack, three with murder, two with murderous assault, two for wounding an officer of the law and the rest with other offenses.

Lynchings

New York Tribune.

At the beginning of the negro migration the Columbia (S. C.) State remarked that when the farmers began to understand that every outburst of mob violence would be followed by the exodus of thousands of negro laborers to the North a tide of public opinion against lynchings would set in. Whether public opinion and self interest have been aroused, or for whatever reason, the lynchings of 1923 were less than half as many as those of 1922, according to the record kept by Tuskegee institute.

Last year 28 persons (26 negroes) were lynched, as against 57 in 1922. The cause of this striking reduction may be related to the fact of the negro migration and perhaps also to the attempt at federal legislation against lynching which failed through a filibuster in the senate. The threat of federal interference with mob law may be having a deterrent effect.

But the real cure for lynching is an aroused public sentiment, of which there are hopeful indications. In 48 instances in 1923 officers of the law prevented lynchings; only six of these in the North. The obligation to protect prisoners by adequate guard and by force of arms, if necessary, is now fully recognized and acted upon in every state. In 13 cases the custodians failed to safeguard their charges, but it is no longer customary to surrender victims tamely to a lynching bee.

It will not be possible entirely to stamp out mob murder as an institution until punishment follows the crime. Of the 52 persons brought to trial last year in connection with lynchings, only two were sent to jail. It is still safe to be mixed up in a lynching affair when juries have not the courage or the will to convict and public sentiment supports them.

Sylvester, Ga. Local

JAN 16 1924

LYNCHING DECREASE

The records show that lynching in the United States during the past year were on the decrease. Only 28 lynchings occurred in 1923 against 57 the previous year. These figures were given out by the Research Department of Tuskeegee Institute. Of these 28, two were whites and the others were negroes. There were lynchings in nine states: Arkansas 2, Florida 8, Georgia 4, Louisiana 1, Mississippi 1; Oklahoma 1, Texas 2, Virginia 1.

Lynchings — 1923.
Reports on Sent Press.

1485

Jan. — Dec.

1485

BRENHAM, TEX. BANNER-PRESS
JANUARY 8, 1924

The Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research, Monroe N. Work in charge, finds that there were twenty-eight persons lynched in 1923. This is twenty-nine less than the number, fifty-seven, for the year 1922. Thirteen of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, seven from jails, and six from officers of the law outside of jails.

It also finds that there were forty-six instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Four women— three white and one colored—were among those thus saved. Six of these preventions of lynchings were in Northern States, and forty in Southern States. In thirty-seven of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In nine of the instances armed force was used to repel the would-be-lynchers. Of the 28 persons lynched in 1923, 26 were negroes and two were whites; two of the former were women; seven, or one-fourth of those put to death, were charged with rape, or attempted rape; one of the victims was burned to death; one was put to death and then the body was burned. The charge against the one burned to death was murder.

SPARTANBURG, S.C.
JAN 3 - 1924
Times

28 People Lynched During Past Year

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ed, 3; assisting man charged with rape
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man and not knowing his place," 1;
insulting woman, 1; peeping in win
dow, 1; striking man in altercation, 1.

The nine states in which lynchings
occurred and the number in each state
are as follows: Arkansas, 2; Florida,
8; Georgia, 4; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi
8; Missouri, 1; Oklahoma, 1; Texas, 2;
Virginia, 1.

TEXARKANA ARK TEXARKANIAN
JANUARY 1, 1924

LESS THAN HALF AS MANY PERSONS ARE LYNCHED IN 1923 AS IN 1922; OFFICERS SAVE 46 FROM RIOTERS

A letter from R. R. Morton, principal of Tuskegee Institute, colored normal school of Tuskegee, Alabama has been received by The Texarkanian. The letter, which contains a resume of lynchings during 1923, is reproduced here:

I send you the following concerning lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the department of records and research, Monroe N. Work in charge. I find that there were 28 persons lynched in 1923. This is 29 less than the number 57 for the year 1922. Thirteen of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 7 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails.

We also find that there were 46 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Four women, 3 white and 1 colored, were among those thus saved. Six of these preventions of lynchings were in northern states and 40 in southern states. In 37 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In the 9 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. In 8 instances during the year persons charged with being connected with lynching mobs were brought to trial. Of the 52 persons thus before the courts only 2 were sent to the penitentiary.

Of the 28 persons lynched in 1923, 26 were negroes and 2 were whites; two of the former were women. Seven, or one-fourth of those put to death were charged with rape or attempted rape; one of the victims was burned to death; one was put to death and then the body was burned. The charge against the one burned to death was murder.

The offenses charged against the whites were: Participation in strike depredations, 1; being taken as a negro, 1. The offenses charged against the negroes were: Murder, 3; murderous assault, 2; rape, 6; attempted rape, 1; killing officer of the law, 2; wounding officer of the law, 2; no charge reported, 3; assisting man charged with rape to escape, 1; resisting posse searching for man charged with rape, 1; cattle stealing, 1; "trying to act like white man and not knowing his place," 1; insulting woman, 1; peeping in window, 1; striking man in altercation, 1.

The nine states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each

ap, although several of the other entries including O. Henry and Rana, are likely to have a good follow-

COLUMBUS GA ENQUIRER SU
JANUARY 3, 1924

Concerning the Decrease in the Number of Lynchings

It is gratifying to note, according to the record kept by the Tuskegee Institute, one of the finest educational institutions for the negro in the country, that there was a decrease in the number of lynchings in the United States last year of a little more than 50 per cent, as compared with the year 1922.

The record shows only 28 people were lynched during 1923, as against 57 in 1922. The number of lynched persons taken from the hands of the law the past year was 13, seven of them from jails and six from officers in charge.

The vigilance of officers is credited with the prevention of 46 lynchings, among those saved being four women, three white, and a negress. Six of the prevented lynchings were in the North and forty in the South. Only two white persons were included in the number lynched last year, the remaining twenty-six being negroes. Georgia had only four lynchings. South Carolina has no lynchings marked up against her.

There are doubtless a number of reasons for the decrease in the number of lynchings. At first hand the thought occurs that there has been progress along educational lines—that as ignorance is combated there is a tendency toward a decrease in the number of crimes which too often lead to lynching, and the other is the force of public opinion which is no longer lenient in its condemnation of lynch lawlessess. But there may be other reasons—one intangible and perhaps subconscious, and the other a practical condition; the first refers to the introduction of the Dyer anti-lynching bill, and the second to the fact that the negro exodus has taken from the South hundreds of thousands of negroes. It is true that the Dyer anti-lynching bill was defeated, but during the discussion which arose the subject of lynching was thoroughly aired, and this lawlessness was universally condemned; and a potent factor was the possibility that a federal law *might* result if the lynching problem were not given more attention in the South. The emigration of negroes not only decreased the lynchable portion of our population but it also suggested to all but the most stupid that unless the negro

Charlotte, N.C.
Christian Observer.
JAN 2 - 1924

Lynchings in the United States during 1923 numbered twenty-six, against sixty-one in 1922, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People announced on December 22. The decrease was laid to agitation for a Federal Anti-Lynching Law and the northward migration of negroes. Mississippi and Florida were reported with five lynchings each. Georgia was listed with four, Oklahoma three, and Arkansas, Alabama and Texas two each. Louisiana, Missouri and Virginia each had one

received fairer treatment and is given justice, and trial by law, the number of negroes will continue to decrease.

Another fact that the white population of the lynching zone is beginning to observe is that the *one* crime which in the past was regarded as furnishing a moral excuse for an illegal act, has ceased to be the only one that causes lynchings. It is as often the case that other crimes lead to lynching; and not infrequently the crime for which a negro is lynched is not a capital crime, but one for which the severest penalty of the law is only a few years' imprisonment.

In any event, it is to be hoped that this report for 1923 is an indication of a genuine reform in the matter of lynching

Wilmington, N. C. News & Dispatch

DEC 26 1923

Only Twenty-Eight Persons Lynched During the Present Year According to Records

Were Forty-six Instances in Which Officers of the Law Prevented Such as Against the Thirteen Prisoners Lost

Tuskegee, Ala., Dec. 26.—Only 28 persons were lynched during 1923, 29 less than the number 57, for the previous year, according to figures compiled and issued by Monroe N. Work, head of the department of records and research at Tuskegee institute. Thirteen of the 28 who went to death without trial were taken from the hands of the law, seven from jails and six from officers of the law outside of jails.

The records also show that there were 46 instances in which officers prevented lynchings. Four women, three white and one negro, were included among those thus saved.

Six of these preventions of lynchings were in Northern states and 40 in Southern states. In 37 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In the 9 other instances armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. In 8 instances during the year persons charged with being connected with lynching mobs were brought to trial. Of the 52 persons thus before the courts only 2 were sent to the penitentiary.

Of the 28 persons lynched in 1923, 26 were negroes and 2 were whites; two of the former were women. 7 or one fourth of those put to death were charged with rape, or attempted rape; one of the victims was burned to death; one was put to death and then the body was burned. The charge against the one burned to death was murder.

The offenses charged against the whites were: participation in strike depredations, 1; being taken as a negro, 1. The offenses charged against the negroes were: murder, 3; murderous assault, 2; rape, 6; attempted rape, 1; killing officer of the law, 2; wounding officer of the law, 2; no charge reported, 3; assisting man charged with rape to escape, 1; resisting posse searching for man charged with rape, 1; cattle stealing, 1; "trying to act like white man and not knowing his place", 1; insulting woman, 1; peeping in window, 1; striking man in altercation, 1.

The nine states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 2; Florida, 8; Georgia, 4; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 8; Missouri, 1; Oklahoma, 1; Texas, 2; Virginia, 1.

COLUMBUS, GA., LEDGER

JAN 1 - 1924

LYNCHINGS 50 PER CENT LESS

During Past Year There Were But 28 Who Lost Lives by Mobs Compared With 57 in 1922.

Tuskegee, Ala., Jan. 1.—Lynchings in the United States decreased more than 50 per cent during 1923 as compared with 1922, according to figures made public by the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute. During 1923 there were 28 lynchings as compared with 57 for the preceding year, these figures showed. Twenty-six of the number were negroes and two were whites. Two women were among the victims of the mobs.

These figures gave Mississippi and Florida eight lynchings each; Georgia four; Arkansas two; Texas two; Virginia one; Missouri one; Oklahoma one; Louisiana one. None were reported from North Carolina, South Carolina or Alabama, according to the Tuskegee compilation.

The Tuskegee report says there were forty-six instances during the year in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Forty of these cases were in southern states and six in northern states.

Thirteen of those lynched last year were taken from the hands of the law, the report states, seven from jails and six from officers outside the jails. Seven of the victims were charged with attack or attempted attack, three with murder, two with murderous assault, two for wounding an officer of the law, and the rest with other offenses.

Huntsville Ala. Times

JAN 1 - 1924

LYNCHINGS OFF FIFTY PER CENT

Mississippi and Florida Led Rest of Nation with 8 Each Out of 28

TUSKEGEE, Jan. 1.—Lynchings in the United States decreased more than 50 precent durin g1923, as compared with 1922, according to figures made public today by the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute. During 1923 there were 28 lynchings as compared with 57 for the preceding year, these figures showed. Twenty-six of the number were negroes and two were whites. Two women were among the victims of mobs.

These figures gave Mississippi and Florida eight each, Georgia 4, Arkansas 2, Texas 2, Virginia 1, Missouri 1, Oklahoma 1, Louisiana 1. None was reported from North Carolina, South Carolina and Alabama according to the Tuskegee compilation.

The Tuskegee reports says there were 45 during the year in which officers of the law prevented lynchings, forty of these cases being in Southern states and six in northern states.

Thirteen of those lynched last year were taken from the hands of the law, the report said, seven from jails and six from officers outside of the jails.

Seven of the victims were charged with attack or attempted attack, three with murder, two with murderous assault, two for wounding an officer of the law and the rest with other offenses.

Sumter, S. C. Herald

JAN 3 - 1924

LYNCHINGS DROP OFF.

Decrease of More Than Fifty Per Cent Shown in Year's Record.

Tuskegee, Ala., Jan. 1.—Lynchings in the United States decreased more than 50 per cent during 1923 as compared with 1922, according to figures made public by the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute. During 1923 there were 28 lynchings as compared with 57 for the preceding year, these figures showed. Twenty-six of the number were negroes and two were whites. Two women were among the victims of mobs.

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The nine states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 2; Florida, 8; eGorgia, 4; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 8; Missouri, 1; Oklahoma, 1; Texas, 2; Virginia, 1.

Yours very truly,
R. A. MORTON,
Tuskegee Institute

PORT JERVIS N. Y. GAZETTE
JANUARY 5, 1924

LYNCHINGS IN AMERICA DURING LAST YEAR

Editor Gazette:

I send you the following concerning lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research, Monroe N. York in charge. I find that there were 28 persons lynched in 1923. This is 29 less than the number 57 for the year 1922. Thirteen of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 7 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails.

We also find that there were 46 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Four women, 3 white and 1 colored, were among those thus saved. Six of these preventions of lynchings were in Northern States and 40 in Southern States. In 37 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In the 9 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. In 8 instances during the year persons charged with being connected with lynching mobs were brought to trial. Of the 52 persons thus before the courts only 2 were sent to the penitentiary.

DAYTON, O. JOURNAL

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JAN 2 1924

LYNCHINGS REDUCED BY HALF IN 1923

Tuskegee Institute Figures Show 28 Against 57 For 1922.

TUSKEGEE, Ala.,—Jan 1.—According to the figures compiled by Tuskegee institute 28 persons were lynched in 1923, 29 less than the 57 for 1922.

Thirteen of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, seven from jails and six from officers outside of jails.

There were 46 instances in which officers prevented lynchings. Four women, three white and one black, were among those thus saved.

Six of these preventions were in northern states and 40 in southern states.

In 37 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In nine instances armed force was used to repel mobs.

In eight instances persons charged with being in lynching mobs were brought to trial.

Lynchings—1923.
Reports on, Sent Press.

Jan.—Dec.

1486

1486

THE LYNCHING RECORD OF 1923

Tuskegee Institute, Ala., Jan., 1924.

Dear Sir:

I send you the following concerning lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research, Monroe N. Work in charge. I find that there were 28 persons lynched in 1923. This is 29 less than the number 57 for the year, 1922. Thirteen of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 7 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. Dallas Express

We also find that there were 46 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Four women, 3 white and 1 Colored, were among those thus saved. Six of these preventions of lynchings were in Northern States and 40 in Southern States. In 37 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards agumented or other precautions taken. In the 9 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. In 8 instances during the year persons charged with being connected with lynching mobs were brought to trial. Of the 52 persons thus before the courts only 2 were sent to the penitentiary. Dallas, Texas

Of the 28 persons lynched in 1923, 26 were Negroes and 2 were whites; two of the former were women. 7 or one-fourth of those put to death were charged with rape or attempted rape; one of the victims was burned to death; one was put to death and then the body burned. The charge against the one burned to death was murder.

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The offenses charged against the whites were: participation in strike depredations, 1; being taken as a Negro, 1. The offenses charged against the Negroes were: murder, 3; murderous assault 2; rape, 6; attempted rape, 1; killing officer of the law, 2; wounding officer of the law, 2; no charge reported, 3; assisting man charged with rape to escape, 1; resisting posse searching for man charged with rape, 1; cattle stealing, 1; insulting woman, 1; peeping in window, 1; striking man in altercation 1.

The nine states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 2; Florida, 8; Georgia, 4; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 8; Missouri, 1; Oklahoma, 1; Texas, 2; Virginia, 1.

Yours very truly,

R. R. MOTON, Principal.

BIRMINGHAM, ALA.
Herald
JAN 19 1924

DECLINE IN MOB LAW

(St. Louis Globe-Democrat)

Had the Dyer bill of doubtful constitutionality, been passed at the last session, the reductions in lynchings in the United States during 1922 would probably have been attributed to its operation. This reduction was more than 50 per cent, or from 57 lynchings in 1922 to 28 lynchings in 1923. More than half these fatalities of mob law took place in the two states of Florida and Mississippi, which are debited with eight each. Where the prevalence of the evil is the greatest suggests where effort for a stricter law enforcement and a vitalized public sentiment should be centered.

Eight more cases are credited to three states—four to Georgia, two to Arkansas and tow to Texas. In four other states the cases were one each and we may recall with shame that Missouri was one of the four, the others being Virginia, Oklahoma and Louisiana. But once in the nearly 40 years since figures on the evil became a subject of comparative record has the number ever fallen as low as thirty-eight and that was in 1917. Is the decline merely fortutious? Is it a consequence of the great numbers of negroes who have left the south? Or does it indicate the beginning of gradual changes which, in process of time, will wipe out this great reproach, at least render lynchings sporadic and occasional?

Everybody would be glad to accept the last explanation and an encouraging thing is that in forty-eight instances last year resolute officers succeeded in preventing lynchings. Of those thus barbarously put to death twenty-six were negroes and two were white persons. And two were women.

BRUNSWICK GA., News
JAN 6 - 1924

DECREASE IN LYNCHINGS

It is gratifying to note, according to the record kept by the Tuskegee Institute, one of the finest educational institutions for the negro in the country, that there was a decrease in the number of lynchings in the United States last year of a little more than 50 per cent, ascompared with the year 1922, says the Columbus Enquirer-Sun.

The record shows only twenty-eight people were lynched during 1923, as against fifty-seven in 1922. The number of lynched persons taken from the hands of the law the past year was thirteen, seven of them from jails and six from officers in charge.

The vigilance of officers is credited with the prevention of forty-six lynchings, among those saved being four women, three white, and a negress. Six of the prevented lynchings were in the North and forty in the South. Only two white persons were included in the number lynched last year, the remaining twenty-six being negroes. Georgia had only four lynchings. South Carolina has no lynchings marked up against her.

There are doubtless a number of reasons for the decrease in the number of lynchings. At first hand the thought occurs that there has been progress along educational lines—that as ignorance is combated there is a tendency toward a decrease in the number of crimes which too often lead to lynching, and the other is the force of public opinion which is no longer lenient in its condemnation of lynch lawlessness. But there may be other reasons—one intangible and perhaps subconscious, and the other a practical condition; the first refers to the introduction of the Dyer anti-lynching bill, and the second to the fact that the negro exodus has taken from the South hundreds of thousands of negroes. It is true that the Dyer anti-lynchig bill was defeated, but during the discussion which arose the subject of lynching was thoroughly aired, and this lawlessness was universally condemned; and a potent factor was the possibility that a federal law might result if the lynching problem were not given more attention in the South. The emigration of negroes ot oly decreased the lynchable portion of our population but it also suggested to all but the most stupid that unless the negro received fairer treatment and is given justice and trial by law, the number of negroes will continue to decrease.

Another fact that the white population of the lynching zone is beginning to observe is that the one crime which in the past was regarded as furnishing a moral excuse for an illegal act, has ceased to be the only one that causes lynchings. It is as often the case that other crimes lead to lynching; and not infrequently the crime for which a negro is lynched is not a capital crime, but one for which the severest penalty of the law is only a few years' imprisonment.

In any event, it is to be hoped that the report for 1923 is an indication of a genuine reform in the matter of lynching—that apart from all other considerations, the people of the South are beginning to realize that lynching a man is merely a form of munrder; and after all the law represents mankind's highest effort toward giving and receiving justice.

There is not now and there never has been any excuse for lynching which is a crime under the law, and usually committed by members of the race which is responsible for the laws; for white people not only make the law, but they elect the officers to enforce it, and they are, if anything, more in honor bound to observe and respect it than the man who has nothing to do with either its making or its enforcement.

LYNCHINGS

During the last thirty-six years more than 4000 lynchings have taken place in the United States. Colored folk for the most part have been the victims of the mob violence of which these lynchings were the lawless fruit. The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People has striven intelligently and persistently to build up sentiment in repression of an evil that in itself was a monstrous wrong and a national disgrace. Undoubtedly a great change has been wrought north and south in the public's attitude toward mob violence, but the evil has not yet been extirpated. Lynching is no longer advocated or defended, but the methods employed for punishing it when it occurs remain very defective.

The change in public sentiment is accurately appraised by the January Current History magazine, in which it is stated:

"Whereas lynching was condoned so little as 15 years ago by newspaper editors, and even by clergymen in the pulpit, no reputable man in public life would now dare to utter such sentiments."

The change is emphasized by editorials in such thoroughly representative southern newspapers as the Atlanta Journal, that expresses its gratification at the reduction in the number of lynchings as "encouraging evidence of an increasing morality."

The Tuskegee Normal and Industrial institute, founded by Booker T. Washington, through its excellent department of records and research, year by year dispassionately has presented all the ascertainable facts concerning lynchings. It finds that there were 28 lynchings in 1923 as against 57 in 1922, and that "there were 46 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings." All but two of those lynched last year were Negroes and two of the Negroes were women. Among the definitely ascertained causes given for mob violence were "cattle stealing," "trying to act like white men and not knowing his place," "striking man in an altercation," etc. Relatively few lynchings were attributed to that crime which in past years ordinarily has been designated as the cause of mob violence.

Viewed relatively, the record shows social and moral improvement. Viewed absolutely it indicates the need of just such federal legislation as has been sought from congress, by which communities that tolerate lynching would be made to pay a highly deterrent penalty.

SANDUSKY, O. ST. JOURNAL
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ate JAN 1 - 1924

Lynchings In 1923 Were Less Than Half The 1922 Number

To the Star-Journal:

I send yo uthe following concerning lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research, Monroe N. Work in charge. I find that there were 28 persons lynched in 1923. This is 29 less than the number 57 of the year 1922. Thirtten of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 7 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails.

We also find that there were 46 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Four women, 3 white and 1 colored, were among those thus saved. Six of these preventions of lynchings were in Northern States and 40 in Southern States. In 37 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In the 9 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. In 8 instances during the year persons charged with being connected with lynching mobs were brought to trial. Of the 52 persons thus before the courts only 2 were sent to the penitentiary.

Of the 28 persons lynched in 1923, 26 were Negroes and 2 were whites; two of the former were women. 7 or one fourth of those put to death were charged with rape or attempted rape; one o fthe victims was burned to death; one was put to death and then the body was burned. The charge against the one burned to death was murder.

The offenses charged against the whites were: participation in strike depredations, 1; being taken as a Negro, 1. The offenses charged against the Negroes were: murder, 3; murderous assault; 2; rape, 6; attempted rape, 1; killing officer of the law, 2; wounding officer of the law, 2; no charge reported, 3; assisting man charged with rape to escape, 1; resisting posse searching for man charged with rape, 1; cattle stealing, 1; "trying to act like white man an dnot knowing his place", 1; insulting woman, 1; peeping in window, 1; striking man in altercation 1.

The nine states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas 2; Florida, 8; Georgia, 4; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 8; Missouri, 1; Oklahoma, 1; Texas, 2; Virginia, 1.

Yours very truly,
R. R. MORTON,
Principal.

Fewest Lynchings In Forty Years

(By The Associated Negro Press)

Atlanta, Ga., Feb. 27.—That the lynching record for 1923, numbering 28 victims, is the lowest in the forty years during which the records have been kept and is only about one-third as high as the average for that period, is the statement of the Commission on Inter-racial Cooperation with headquarters in this city. The next lowest record was 38 in 1917, the highest was 255 in 1892, and the average for the forty year period has been 109. The Commission points out also that the area affected is steadily being reduced, from 33 states in 1892 to nine last year. The Commission believes that public sentiment and faithful officials are determined to put an end to lynchings.

On the other hand the discouraging fact is pointed out that local courts last year failed almost utterly to apprehend and punish the members of mobs. In only three of the 1923 cases, so far as the Commission could learn, were any arrests made or indictments returned. In two of these cases no convictims were secured. Results in the third case have not been learned. Repeated inquiries of local officials failed to reveal any other legal action beyond fruitless grand jury investigations.

The difficulty of securing evidence and convictions in such cases, says the Commission, indicates the need in several states of special preventive legislation. Among the suggested measures, which have proved effective in other states, are provisions for removal of officers who surrender prisoners, the fining of counties where lynchings occur, and a state constabulary under control of the governor.

TOPEKA KANS CAPPERS WKLY
JANUARY 12, 1924

The total number of lynchings reported by Tuskegee Institute last year was 28 compared with 57 the year before. Twenty-six of the persons lynched were Negroes, only 2 were white. Sixteen of the 28 were lynched in the two states of Mississippi and Florida. Four were lynched in Georgia, two in Arkansas and two in Texas.

GAINESVILLE, GA. PRESS
JAN 9 - 1924

Number of Lynchings During Past Year

The following is a summary of the lynching record of nine states during the past year, according to figures gathered by Monroe N. Work of the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial School Tuskegee, Ala. Under date of December 31st, he issues the following:

I send you the following concerning lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research, Monroe N. Work in charge. I find that there were 28 persons lynched in 1923. This is 29 less than the number 57 for the year 1922. Thirteen of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 7 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails.

We also find that there were 46 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Four women, 3 white and 1 colored, were among those thus saved. Six of these preventions of lynchings were in northern states and 40 in southern states. In 37 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In the 9 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. In 8 instances during the year persons charged with being connected with lynching mobs were brought to trial. Of the 52 persons thus before the courts only 2 were sent to the penitentiary.

Of the 28 persons lynched in 1923, 26 were negroes and 2 were whites; two of the former were women. 7 or one fourth of those put to death were charged with rape or attempted rape; one of the victims was burned to death; one was put to death and then the body was burned. The charge against the one burned to death was murder.

The offenses charged against the whites were: participation in strike depredations, 1; being taken as a negro 1. The offense charged against the negroes were: murder, 2; murderous assault, 2; rape, 6; attempted rape, 1; killing officer of the law, 2; wounding officer of the law, 2; no charge reported, 3; assisting man charged with rape to escape, 1; resisting posse searching for man charged with rape, 1; cattle stealing, 1; trying to act like white man and not knowing his place, 1; insulting woman, 1; peeping in window 1; striking man in altercation, 1.

The nine states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 2; Florida 8; Georgia, 4; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 8; Missouri, 1; Oklahoma, 1; Texas 2; Virginia, 1.

Your svery truly,
R. R. MOTON.
Principal

Waynesville N C
JAN 23 1924
Journal

28 PERSONS LYNCHED IN 1923

No Lynchings in North Carolina

Tuskegee, Ala. — The following concerning lynchings for the past year was compiled by Tuskegees institute's department of records and research, Monroe N. Work in charge. There were 28 persons lynched in 1923. This is 29 less than the number 57 for the year 1922. Thirteen of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 7 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. There were 46 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Four women, 3 white and 1 colored, were among those thus saved. Six of these preventions of lynchings were in Northern states and 40 in Southern states. Of the 28 persons lynched in 1923, 26 were negroes and 2 were whites; two of the former were women. Seven, or one-fourth of those put to death, were charged with rape or attempted rape; one of the victims was burned to death; one was put to death and then the body was burned. The charge against the one burned to death was murder.

The offenses charged against the whites were: Participation in strike depredations, 1; being taken as a negro, 1. The offenses charged against the negroes were: Murder, 3; murderous assault, 2; rape, 6; attempted rape, 1; killing officer of the law, 2; wounding officer of the law, 2; no charge reported, 3; assisting man charged with rape to escape, 1; resisting posse searching for man charged with rape, 1; cattle stealing, 1; "trying to act like white man and not knowing his place," 1; insulting woman, 1; peeping in window, 1; striking man in altercation, 1.

The nine states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 2; Florida, 8; Georgia, 4; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 8; Missouri, 1; Oklahoma. 1: Texas. 2: Virginia. 1.

Jackson Ga
JAN 11 19

BIG DROP IN THE NUMBER LYNCHED

TUSKEGEE REPORT SHOWS A DECREASE OF 50 PER CENT IN 1923. ONY 28 LAST YEAR AND 57 IN 1922

Tuskegee, Ala.—Lynchings in the United States decreased more than 50 per cent during 1923 as compared with 1922 according to figures made public by the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute. During 1923 there were 28 lynchings as compared with 57 for the preceeding year, these figures showed. Twenty-six of the number were negroes and two whites. Two women were among the victims of mobs.

These figures gave Mississippi and Florida eight lynchings each, Georgia 4, Arkansas 2, Texas 2, Virginia 1, Missouri 1, Oklahoma 1, Louisiana 1. None was reported from North Carolina, South Carolina and Alabama, according to the Tuskegee compilation.

The Tuskegee report says there were 46 instances during the year in which officers of the law prevented lynchings, 40 of these cases were in southern states and six in northern states.

Thirteen of those lynched last year were taken from the hands of the law, the report states, seven from jails and six from officers outside of jails. Seven of the victims were charged with attack or attempted attack, three with murder, two with murderous assault, two for wounding an officer of the law, and the rest with other offences.

Lynchings-1923.
Reports on, Sent Press.

Jan.-Dec.

1487

Constitution Advocate
COLUMBIA S C
JUL 19 1923

LYNCHING ON THE DECREASE

Most gratifying to the friends of law and order is the report of Principal Moton, published in this issue of the Advocate, that there were only fifteen lynchings in the country during the first six months of 1923, as against 30 for the same period last year, and 36 for 1921. Of course this is fifteen too many, but it really begins to look as if the propaganda carried forward against this foulest blot on our escutcheon by the press, the pulpit, women's organizations, inter-racial commissions, and other agencies for the expression of public opinion, is beginning to bring results.

The record shows that this most hideous of all crimes has been confined this year to seven states—Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Missouri, Mississippi and Texas, and that Florida furnished seven of the fifteen, or nearly fifty per cent of the entire number. Georgia has become almost as civilized as her sister states, and in view of recent revelations connected with the convict lease system, it is not surprising that Florida should leap into the limelight by indulging in the pastime of hanging and burning negroes. But the better public sentiment that has asserted itself in putting an end to the convict lease system and the prison lash and in sending a "whipping boss" murderer to the penitentiary, will also soon be aroused to put an end to lynch law in Florida.

This report, like those that have gone before, shows that lynching is still peculiarly a Southern crime, that 87 per cent of the victims were negroes, and that of these only one was charged with the crime of rape, and that as has been often pointed out, once lynching is countenanced to avenge even so hideous a crime as rape, there is absolutely no way to prevent extending it, as this report shows, to the punishment of such trivial offenses as "trying to act like a white man," "trying to pass for a white man," "cattle stealing," "participating in strike depredations," &c.

Let every pulpit continue to thunder that every individual who participates in a lynching is as guilty of murder in the sight of God as if he premeditatedly slew the victim by himself; let every paper, religious and secular, continue to preach that mob law is anarchy, and unless checked must inevitably end in the overthrow of all government and a return to the practice of primitive society for every man to privately avenge his own wrongs; let our women continue to sound the note that the ordered justice of the courts is a far more effective protection for womanhood than mob insanity, and that they are uncompromisingly opposed to invoking lynch law in their behalf; let governors be prompt to disperse mobs, if necessary with machine gun volleys, as was recently done in Savannah, and let brave sheriffs face mob cowards with the grim determination to defend their prisoners, if need be, with their lives; and let juries convict a few mob murderers and send them to the penitentiary or the chaingang, and in a few years the lynching evil will be unknown.

Jacksonville, Fla. Metropolis
JAN 23 1924

FEWEST LYNCHINGS IN FORTY YEARS

Atlanta, Ga., Jan. 21.—That the lynching record for 1923, numbering 28 victims is the lowest in the forty years during which the records have been kept and is only about one-third as high as the average for that period, is the statement of the Commission on Interracial Co-operation, with headquarters in this city. The next lowest record was 38 in 1917, the highest was 255 in 1892, and the average for the forty year period has been 109. The Commission points out also that the area affected is steadily being reduced from 33 states in 1892 to nine last year. The Commission believes that public sentiment and faithful officials are determined to put an end to lynching.

On the other hand the discouraging fact is pointed out that local courts last year failed almost utterly to apprehend and punish the members of mobs. In only three of the 1923 cases so far as the Commission could learn, were any arrests made or indictments returned. In two of these cases no convictions were secured. Results in the third case have not been learned. Repeated inquiries of local officials failed to reveal any other legal action beyond fruitless grand jury investigations.

The difficulty of securing evidence and convictions in such cases, says the Commission, indicates the need in several states of special preventive legislation. Among the suggested measures, which have proved effective in other states, are provisions for removal of officers who surrender prisoners, the fining of counties where lynchings occur, and a state constabulary under control of the governor.

Richland Ga.
JAN 11 1924
News

GEORGIA SHOWS BIG DECREASE IN LYNCHINGS

The records of 1922 showed Georgia in the lead with lynchings but according to a report submitted to the newspapers by R. R. Moton, Principal of Tuskeegee Institute, Georgia has made a considerable reduction in her previous records and during 1923 ran third in lynchings recorded.

Dr. Motons statistics of lynchings in the United States is as follows:

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Thirteen of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails.

We also find that there were 46 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Four women, 3 white and 1 colored, were among those thus saved. Six of these preventions of lynchings were in Northern states and 40 in Southern states. In 37 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In the other 9 instances armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. In 8 instances during the year persons charged with being connected with lynching mobs were brought to trial. Of the 52 persons thus before the courts only 2 were sent to the penitentiary.

Of the 28 persons lynched in 1923 26 were negroes and 2 were whites; two of the former were women. 7 or one-fourth of those put to death were charged with rape or attempted rape one victim was burned to death one was put to death and then the body was burned. The charge against the one burned to death was murder.

The offenses charged against the whites were: participation in strike depredations, 1; being taken as a negro, 1. The offenses charged against the negroes were: murder, 3; murderous assault, 2; rape 6; attempted rape, 1; killing officer of the law, 2; wounding officer of the law, 2; no charge reported, 3; assisting man charged with rape to escape, 1; resisting posse searching for man charged with rape, 1; cattle stealing, 1; "trying to act like white man and not knowing his place," 1; insulting woman, 1; peeping in window, 1; striking man in altercation, 1.

The nine states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas. 2: Florida. 3; Georgia, 4; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 8; Missouri, 1; Oklahoma, 1; Texas 2; Virginia, 1.

Yours very truly,

R. R. MOTON"

Atlanta Ga
Independent
JAN 17 1924

TUSKEGEE GIVES OUT RECORD ON 1923 LYNCHING

Tuskegee, Inst., Ala.—I send you the following concerning lynchings for the past year, as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the department of records and research Monroe N. Work in charge. I find that there were 28 persons lynched in 1923. This is 29 less than the number, 57, for the year 1922. Thirteen of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, seven from jails and six from officers of the law outside of jails.

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Of the twenty-eight persons lynched in 1923, twenty-six were Negroes and two were whites; two of the former were women; seven or one-fourth of those put to death

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Yours very truly,
R. R. Moton, Principal.

Toccoa, Ga. Record
JAN 10 1924

Fewer Lynchings In 1923

According to records kept in the Department of Research at Tuskegee Institute, there were 28 persons lynched in the U. S. in 1923. This is 29 less than the number 57 for the year 1922. Thirteen of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, seven from jails and six from officers of the law outside of jails.

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Yours very truly,
R. R. Moton, Principal.

Sparta Ga. Ishmaelite
JAN 11 19

BIG DECREASE IN LYNCHINGS

Tuskegee, Ala., Jan. 1.—The following concerning lynchings for the past year is compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research, Monroe N. York in charge. It is found there were 28 persons lynched in 1923. This is 29 less than the number 57 for the year 1922. Thirtee nof the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 7 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails.

We also find that there were 46 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Four women, white and one colored were among those thus saved. Six of these preventions of lynchings were in Northern states and 40 in Southern States. In 37 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In the nine other instances, armed farce was used to repel the would-be lynchers. In 8 instances during the year persons charged with being connected with lynching mobs were brought to trial. Of the 52 persons thus tried before the courts, only two were sent to the penitentiary.

Of the 28 persons lynched in 1923, 26 were negroes and 2 were whites; two of the former were women, 7, of those put to death were charged with rape or attempted rape; one of the victims was dead and then the body burned burned to death; one was put to The charge against the one burned to death was murder.

The offenses charged against the whites were, participation in strike depredations, 1; being taken as a negro, 1. The offenses charged against the negroes were: murder, 3; murderous assault, 2; rape, 6; attempted rape, 1; killing officer of the law, 2; wounding officer of the law, 2; no charge reported, 3; assisting man charged with rape to escape, 1; resisting posse searching for man charged with rape, 1;cattle stealing 1; "trying to act like white man and not knowing his place," 1; insulting woman, 1; peeping in window, 1; striking man in altercation, 1.

The nine states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 2; Florida, 8; Georgia, 4; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 8; Missouri, 1; Oklahoma, 1; Texas, 2; Virginia. 1.

Eastman, Ga. Times
JAN 3 - 1924

28 Lynched During 192

The following report concerning lynchings in the United States during the past year is made by the Tuskegee Institute, Tuskeegee, Ala., the figures being compiled by the department of records and research of that institution, Monroe N. Work in charge:

There were 28 persons lynched in 1923. This is 29 less than the number 57 for the year 1922. Thirteen of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 7 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails.

We also find that there were 46 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Four women, 3 white and 1 colored, were among those thus saved. Six of these preventions of lynchings were in Northern states and 40 in Southern States. In 37 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In the 9 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. In 8 instances during the year persons charged with being connected with lynching mobs were brought to trial. Of the 52 persons thus before the courts only 2 were sent to the penitentiary.

Of the 28 persons lynched in 1923, 26 were negroes and 2 were whites; two of the former were women. Seven or one fourth of those put to death were charged with rape or attempted rape; one of the victims was burned to death; and one was put to death and then the body burned. The charge against the one burned to death was murder.

The offences charged against the whites were; participation in strike depredations, 1; being taken as a negro, 1. The offense charged against the negroes were: murder, 3; murderous assault, 2; rape, 6; attempted rape, 1; killing officer of the law, 2; wounding officer of the law, 2; no charge reported, 3; assisting man charged with rape to escape, 1; resisting posse searching for man charged with rape, 1; cattle stealing, 1; "trying to act like white man and not knowing his place", 1; peeping in window, 1; striking man in altercation, 1.

The nine states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 2; Florida, 8; Georgia, 4; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 8; Missouri, 1; Oklahoma, 1; Texas, 2; Virginia. 1.

Tomer Ga. Journal
JAN 18 192

Fewer Lyuchings in 1923

According to records kept in the Department of Research at Tuskegee Institute, there were 28 persons lynched in the U. S. in 1923. This is 29 less than the number 57 for the year 1922. Thirteen of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, seven from jails and six from officers of the law and outside of jails.

Of the 28 persons lynched in 1923, 26 were negroes and two were whites; two of the former were women.

The nine states in which lynchings occured and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 2; Florida, 8; Georgia, 4; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 8; Missouri, 1; Oklahoma, 1; Texas, 2; Virginia, 1.

NEW YORK CITY WORLD
JANUARY 31, 1924

CHANGING A SOCIAL CUSTOM.

The low record of twenty-eight victims of lynch law in 1923 is a source of general gratification, particularly to the Commission on Interracial Cooperation, a Southern organization composed of some of the best elements of both races. But the gratification is tempered by the discouraging fact that local courts failed to punish lynchers. In no case did the commission discover effective prosecution and punishment.

Failure to prosecute is an old story, because failure has been practically a social custom. "It isn't done," has seemed to Southern Sheriffs and Prosecutors a good and sufficient reply to criticisms of inaction. Juries have failed to convict as a matter of custom. Last year's change for the better in the lynching record indicates a change in the traditional Southern viewpoint. There is reason for hope that this change may soon extend to demands that the law punish lynching by punishing the members of the mobs. If the South is swinging around to the idea that lynching is poor policy, it may next decide that the punishment of lynchers is good policy.

Paris, Ky.
JAN 5 - 1924
Courier

Lynchings in 1923 Drop 50 Per Cent

Tuskegee, Ala., Jan. 4.—Lynchings in the United States decreased more than 50 per cent during 1923, as compared with 1922, according to figures made public by the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute. During 1923 there were twenty-eight lynchings as compared with fifty-seven for the preceding year, these figures showed. Twenty-six of the number were negroes and two were whites. Two women were among the victims of mobs.

LYNCHINGS - 1923
Preserved

Lynchings—1923.
Reports on, Sent Press.

Jan.—Dec.

1488

Letter. Ga
Advertiser
JAN 25 1924

BIG DROP IN THE NUMBER LYNCHED

TCSKEGEE REPORT SHOWS A DECREASE OF 50 PER CENT IN 1923. ONLY 28 LAST YEAR AND 57 IN 1922.

Tuskegee, Ala.—Lynchings in the United States decreased more than 50 per cent during 1923 as compared with 1922 according to figures made public by the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute. During 1923 there were 28 lynchings as compared with 57 for the preceding year, these figures showed. Twenty-six of the number were negroes and two whites. Two women were among the victims of mobs.

These figures gave Mississippi and Florida eight lynchings each, Georgia 4, Arkansas 2, Texas 2, Virginia 1, Missouri 1, Oklahoma 1, Louisiana 1. None was reported from North Carolina, South Carolina and Alabama, according to the Tuskegee compilation.

The Tuskegee report says there were 46 instances during the year in which officers of the law prevented lynchings, 40 of these cases were in southern states and six in northern states.

Thirteen of those lynched last year were taken from the hands of the law, the report states, seven from jails and six from officers outside the jails. Seven of the victims were charged with attack or attempted attack, three with murder, two with murderous assault, two for wounding an officer of the law, and the rest with other offences.

Maysville Ky
Interprise
JAN 9 - 1924

LYNCHINGS LESS DURING LAST YEAR

Number Reduced More Than Half Is Hopeful Sign That Hot Heads Are Cooling Down.

I send you the following concerning lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research, Monroe N. Work in charge. I find that there were 28 persons lynched in 1923. This is 29 less than the number 57 for the year 1922. Thirteen of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 7 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails.

We also find that there were 46 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Four women, 3 white and 1 colored, were among those thus saved. Six of these preventions of lynchings were in Northern States and 40 in Southern States. In 37 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In the 9 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. In 8 instances during the year persons charged with being connected with lynching mobs were brought to trial. Of the 52 persons thus before the courts only 2 were sent to the penitentiary.

Of the 28 persons lynched in 1923 26 were Negroes and 2 were whites; two of the former were women. 7 or one-fourth of those put to death were charged with rape or attempted rape; one of the victims was burned to death; one was put to death and then the body was burned. The charge against the one burned to death was murder.

The offenses charged against the whites were: participation in strike depredations, 1; being taken as a Negro, 1. The offenses charged against the Negroes were: murder, 3; murderous assault, 2; rape, 6; attempted rape, 1; killing officer of the law, 2; no charge reported, 3; assisting man charged with rape to escape, 1; resisting posse searching for man charged with rape, 1; cattle stealing 1; "trying to act like white man and not knowing his place", 1; insulting woman, 1; peeping in window, 1; striking man in altercation 1.

The nine states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 2; Florida, 8; Georgia, 4; Louisiana 1; Mississippi 8; Missouri 1; Oklahoma 1; Texas 2; Vrginia 1.

R. R. Moton. Principal.

Miller, Ga
News
JAN 10 1924

...nings on Decrease ...r the Country

Dear Sir:

I send you the following concerning lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the department of Records and Research, Monroe N. Work in charge. I find that there were 28 persons lynched in 1923. This is 29 less than the number 57 for the year, 1922. Thirteen of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law seven from jails and six from officers of the law outside of jails.

We also find that there were 46 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Four women, 3 white and 1 colored, were among those thus saved. Six of these preventions of lynchings were in Northern States and 40 in Southern States. In 37 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precaution taken. In the 9 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. In 8 instances during the year persons charged with being connected with lynching mobs were brought to trial. Of the 52 persons thus before the courts only 2 were sent to the penitentiary.

Of the 28 persons lynched in 1923 26 were negroes and two were whites. Two of the former were women. Seven or one-fourth of those put to death were charged with rape or attempted rape; one of the victims was burned to death; one was put to death and then the body burned. The charge against the one burned to death was murder.

The offenses charged against the whites were: participation in strike depredations, 1; being taken as a negro,1. The offenses charged against the negroes were murder, 3, murderous assault, 2, rape, 6; attempted rape, 1; killing officer of the law, 2; wounding officer of the law, 2; no charge reported, 3; assisting man charged with rape to escape, 1; resisting posse searching for man charged with rape, 1; cattle stealing, 1; "trying to act like white man and not knowing his place," 1; insulting woman, 1; peeping in window, 1; striking man in altercation, 1.

The nine states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 2; Florida, 8; Georgia, 4; Louisana, 1; Mississippi, 8; Missouri, 1; Oklahoma, 1; Texas, 2, and Virginia, 1.

Yours very truly,
R. R. MOTON. Principal.

Jessburg, Ga
Journal
JAN 4 - 1924

LYNCHINGS SHOW BIG DECREASE IN YEAR JUST ENDED

During 1923 There Were 28, as Compared With 57 for 1922—Georgia Had Four.

TUSKEGEE, Ala., Jan. 1.—Ynchings in the United States decreased more than 50 per cent during 1923 as compared with 1922, according to figures made public by the Tuskegee Normal and. Industrial Institute During 1923 there were 28 lynchings as compared with 57 for the preceding year, these figures showed. Twenty-six of the number were negroes and two whites. Two women were among the victims of the mobs.

These figures gave Mississippi and Florida eight lynchings each, Georgia four, Arkansas two, Texas two, Virginia one, Missouri one, Oaklahoma one, Louisiana one. None were reported from North Carlina or South Corolina, occording to the Tuskegee compilation.

The Tuskegee report says there were forty-six instances during the year in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Forty of these cases were in Southern states and six in Northern states.

Thirteen of those lynched last year were taken from the hands of the law, the report states, seven from jails and six from officers outside the jails. Seven of the victims were charged with attack or attempted attack, three with murder, two with murderous assault, two for wounding an officer of the law, and the rest with other offenses.

DALLAS, TEXAS TIMES
JAN 8 - 1924

JUDGE LYNCH.

Austin Statesman: Texas gets discredit for only two of the twenty-eight lynchings that took place in the United States during 1923. According to figures released Tuesday by R. R. Morton, principal of Tuskegee Institute, Tuskegee, Ala., less than half as many lynchings took place in 1923 as was the case in 1922. In 1922 fifty-seven persons met death beyond the pale of the law. While Texas is near the bottom of the list of lynching States, Florida and Mississippi are at the top with eight lynchings taking place during the year in each of these two States. Following are the nine States in which lynchings took place, together with the number in each State: Arkansas, 2; Florida, 8; Georgia, 4; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 8; Missouri, 1; Oklahoma, 1; Texas, 2; Virginia, 1.

Neither of the Carolinas appears to have staged a lynching last year, notwithstanding there is a large colored population in both those States. South Carolina has perhaps a preponderance of negroes, but for one reason or another there is little race disturbance there. Virginia had one lynching and there are proportionately far fewer negroes in that State than in South Carolina. On the other hand, Mississippi, where the blacks have outnumbered the whites for a century, there were eight lynchings. The white population's attitude toward crime is the same in all the States. Therefore, it would be interesting to have an authoritative statement of the conditions which seem to create race enmity in one State and race amity in an adjoining State. It may be remarked also that in South Carolina, where the agricultural labor is mostly black, there is a high average of prosperity on the farms. Perhaps the landlords are influential enough not only to forbid but punish irresponsibles inclined to "whitecap" or otherwise intimidate negro labor, as is not uncommon in some regions. If so, there are other Southern States which might profit by South Carolina's example. Farms without workers are

not good property, and no one knows this better than the South Carolinians, who have been farming with negro labor three hundred years.

TUSKEGEE GIVES OUT RECORD ON 1923 LYNCHINC

Tuskegee, Inst., Ala.—I sen you the following concerning lynch ings for the past year, as compile by Tuskegee Institute in the de partment of records and research Monroe N. Work in charge. I fin that there were 28 persons lynche in 1923. This is 29 less than th number, 57, for the year 1922 Thirteen of the persons lynche were taken from the hands of the law, seven from jails and six from officers of the law outside of jails.

We also find that there were 46 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Four women, three white and one colored, were among those thus saved Six of these preventions of lynchings were in northern states and forty in southern states. In thirty-seven of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken In the nine other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. In eight instances during the year persons charged with being connected with lynching mobs were brought to trial. Of the fifty-two persons thus before the courts only two were sent to the penitentiary.

Of the twenty-eight persons lynched in 1923, twenty-six were Negroes and two were whites; two of the former were women; seven or one-fourth of those put to death were charged with rape or attempted rape; one of the victims was burned to death; one was put to death and then the body was burned. The charge against the one burned to death was murder.

The offenses charged against the whites were: participation in strike depredations, 1; being taken as a Negro, 1. The offenses charged against the Negroes were: murderous assault, 2; rape, 6; attempted rape, 1; killing officer of the law, 2; wounding officer of the law, 2; no charge reported, 3; assisting man charged with rape to escape 1; resisting posse searching for man charged with rape, 1; cattle stealing, 1; "trying to act like white man and not knowing his place," 1; insulting woman, 1 peeping in window, 1; striking man in altercation, 1.

The nine states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 2; Florida, 8; Georgia, 4 Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 8; Missouri, 1; Oklahoma, 1; Texas, 2 Virginia, 1.

Yours very truly,
R. R. Moton, Principal.

NEW YORK CITY TRIBUNE
JANUARY 2 1924

Lynchings of 1923

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: I send you the following concerning lynchings for the last year, as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the department of records and research Monroe N. Work in charge. I find that there were 28 persons lynched in 1923 This is 29 less than the number (57) for the year 1922. Thirteen of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law—7 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails.

We also find that there were 46 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Four women—3 white and 1 colored—were among those thus saved. Six of these preventions of lynchings were in Northern states and 40 in Southern states In 37 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In the other instances armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. In 8 instances during the year persons charged with being connected with lynching mobs were brought to trial Of the 52 persons thus before the courts only 2 were sent to the penitentiary.

Of the 28 persons lynched in 1923 26 were negroes and 2 were whites; two of the former were women. Seven or one-fourth, of those put to death were charged with rape or attempted rape. One of the victims was burned to death; one was put to death and then the body was burned. The charge against the one burned to death was murder.

The nine states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 2; Florida 8; Georgia, 4; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 8; Missouri, 1; Oklahoma, 1; Texas, 2; Virginia, 1.

R. R. MOTON

Principal Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute.
Tuskegee Institute, Ala., Dec. 31, 1923.

Commerce, Ga
News JAN 3 - 1924

THE YEARS LYNCHING RECORD

Tuskegee, Ala., Dec. 31, 1923.
Editor Commerce News:-
Dear Sir:

I send you the following concerning lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research, Monroe N. Work in charge. I find that there were 28 persons lynched in 1923. This is 29 less than the number 57 for the year 1922. 13 of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 7 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails.

We also find that there were 46 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. 4 women, 3 white and 1 colored, were among those thus saved. 6 of these preventions of lynchings were in Northern States and 40 in Southern States. In 37 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In the 9 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. In 8 instances during the year persons charged with being connected with lynching mobs were brought to trial. Of the 52 persons thus before the courts only 2 were sent to the penitentiary.

Of the 28 persons lynched in 1923, 26 were negroes and two were whites; two of the former were women. 7 or one fourth of those put to death were charged with rape or attempted rape; 1 of the victims was burned to death; one was put to death and the body was burned. The charge against the one burned to death was murder.

The offenses charged against the whites were: Participation in strike depredations, 1; being taken as a negro, 1. The offenses charged against the negroes were: Murder 3, murderous assault 2; rape 6; attempted rape 1 killing officer of the law, 2; wounding officer of the law, 2; no charge reported, 3; assisting man charged with rape, 1; cattle stealing, 1; "trying to act like white man and not knowing his place" 1; insulting woman, 1; peeping in window, 1; striking man in altercation 1.

The nine states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Ark 2; Florida 8; Georgia 4; Louisiana 1; Mississippi, 8; Missouri 1 Oklahoma, 1; Texas, 2; Virginia 1.

Yours very truly,
R. R. Moton, Principal.

Manchester Ga
+ Mercury
JAN 17 1924

Only 28 Lynchings During Year 1923

Tuskeegee, Ala.—Lynchings in the United States decreased more than 50 per cent during 1923, according to figures made public by the Tuskeegee Normal and Industrial and Normal Institute.

During 1923, there were 28 lynchings compared with 57 for the preceding year. Twenty-six were negroes and two were whites. Mississippi and Florida led with eight lynchings each and Georgia was second with four.

Lewis

MICHIGAN CITY IND DISPATCH
JULY 9, 1923

THE LYNCHINGS FOR SIX MONTHS

As Compiled by Tuskegee Colored Normal-Idustrial School.

According to the records compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the department of records and research, in the first six months of 1923 there were 15 lynchings, in the United States. This is 15 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922 and 21 less than the number, 36, for the first six months of 1921.

Of those lynched, two were whites and thirteen were negroes. One of the latter was a woman. One of those put to death was charged with the crime of rape. The other offenses charged were: murder, 2; killing officer of the law, 2; wounding officer of the law, 2; no charge reported, 2; assisting man charged with rape to escape, 1; trying to pass for white, 1; resisting posse searching for man charged with rape,; participating in depredations connected with railroad strike. 1; cattle stealing, 1; trying to act like white man and not knowing his place 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida 7; Georgia 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 2; Missouri. 1; and Texas. 1.

Lynchings—1923.
Reports on Sent Press.

Jan.—Dec.

1489

SYRACUSE N.Y. POST STANDARD
MARCH 20. 1924

The Negro lynchings in 1923 were 28. Ten years ago the number was 252. The exodus of Negroes from the south has been a great influence, for the south is more concerned about the content of its blacks than it was.

MERIDEN CONN RECORD
MARCH 20, 1924

Something To Be Thankful For

The record of lynchings for 1923 shows a notable reduction under the number debited in the preceding year. The 28 mob murders that are charged to it are 10 less than the lowest number of any year since accurate records have been kept. This decrease in mob lawlessness is unquestionably due to the awakening of the public to the menace that lies in such violence and to the assertion of the better elements of the population, which fortunately are in large majority, in registering opinion against it.

It is also to be noted that in the past year the number of states not indicted with lynchings increased. Thirty-nine states passed the year without that blot, the largest number that has yet been counted have passed a 12 months' period without such offense, since lynchings have been accurately recorded.

But the records of nine states show lynchings, and that is nine too many. While the 28 lynchings of 1923 show a marked decrease in such offenses, the number is larger than it should be by 28. Not until that form of violence is wholly stamped out will the forces that are working against it be warranted in lessening effort.

The decrease has undoubtedly been due to education and experience. One would like to believe that the spirit which has animated the work has been purely ethical, but there is reason to think material reasons have in large measure entered into the question.

Every decent man and woman feels revulsion at the thought of lynching. It is contrary to all ideas of law and justice.

Experience has proved that mob spirit which invariably is responsible for lynchings, is often apt to get beyond bounds creating situations fraught with peril to the material welfare of the public.

A mob crazed by blood lust is a menace to any community. If unconquered it threatens the material resources as well as the mental poise.

When an evil touches a man's pocketbook, he is apt to give greater attention to it than if it is merely something which has to do with ideals and theories.

Lynching has proved expensive. It has also led to social disturbances far reaching in character. Fearful of further losses, men have decided that lynching is unprofitable and have worked to prevent it.

Houston, Tex. Post

X

JAN 11 1924

Fewer Lynchings in 1923

In one respect, there was a notable recession in the crime wave last year. Offenses by individuals may have been more numerous, but there were just about half as many lynchings in 1923 as in 1922. This is one thing to be thankful for, anyhow.

Immediate credit for reducing the number of lynchings must go to courageous and oath-respecting officers of the law who foiled forty-six mobs in their nefarious work, cutting the lynching record down to only twenty-eight for the year, as compared with fifty-seven in the previous year, according to the statistics kept by Tuskegee institute.

Too much praise can not be meted out to those brave officers who proved themselves worthy of their trust. They are of the type upon whom the country must depend in its war on lawlessness. They not only upheld the dignity and majesty of the law, but they proved that the law can be upheld when the right sort of men are put in charge. They show up weak, incompetent and conniving officers, who plead inability to cope with mobs.

Mob law will give place to constituted authority as the latter asserts itself and shows lawless interests that it can not be overridden.

Perhaps, some credit for the fewer lynchings should go to an aroused public sentiment against mob violence. There is no doubt but that the people realize more fully than ever before the menace of the mob, and are setting their faces against it. The threat of Federal legislation of a drastic nature has brought the problem home to many in its true light.

With continued progress in suppressing the practice, action by the National government may not be necessary. There is no better way to make the Dyer bill a dead issue in congress than for public sentiment to decree that there shall be no more lynchings. It is up to those who oppose both lynching and Federal encroachment upon State rights to foster this educational movement against the lawlessness of the mob.

There is still a great deal to be done. Twenty-eight mob crimes in one year are sufficient to shame a great intelligent people, whose boast is that their government is a government of law.

Atlanta, Ga. Oct 1

JAN 10 1924

LYNCHING DECREASED IN THE YEAR 1923

Lynchings for the year 1923 compiled by Tuskegee Institute, Monroe N. Work in charge, show that there were 28 persons lynched, 29 less than the number, 57, for 1922. Thirteen lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 7 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails.

Also, there were 46 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. In 37 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In the 9 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. In 8 instances persons charged with being connected with lynching mobs were brought to trial. Of the 52 persons thus before the courts only 2 were sent to the penitentiary.

The 28 persons lynched in 1923—26 were Negroes and 2 were whites—two of the former were women—7, or one-fourth of those put to death, were charged with rape or attempted rape; one of the victims was burned to death; one was put to death and then the body was burned. The charge against the one burned to death was murder.

The nine states in which lynchings occurred are as follows: Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, Oklahoma, Texas and Virginia.

Monticello, Ga. News

JAN 4 - 1924

LYNCHINGS ON THE DECREASE

It will be noted with interest that the number of lynchings in 1923 were only 28 as against that of 57 for 1922. Only four lynchings occurred in Georgia. These statistics are given out by R. R. Moton, of Tuskegee Institute, who has made a study and kept the records of all lynchings for a number of years past. He is a well known negro educator and a man of much ability and reliability. He is a native born Southern negro and has lived in the South all of his life. He is not pos-

sessed with advanced ideas and theories relating to his race, but he has always adhered to the belief that the negro's best friend is the white man of the South. This doctrine he has preached and talked throughout the nation and when he is in Boston or elsewhere he does not mince words as to what the believes to be for the best interest of the negro race.

If the country had more men of his character and ability there would be no argument over the race question. He has contributed much towards bringing about a better understanding between the races and to him in a great measure is due the good feeling and little trouble which is experienced between the two races. He is a deserving man and should receive the support and co-operation of the white people in the great work he has undertaken in directing the future of the negro for his welfare and to teach him to know and understand his sphere in life and how to conduct himself. He has accomplished much and he will do more in the years to come of his usefulness.

The nine states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 2; Florida, 8 Georgia, 4; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 8; Missouri, 1; Oklahoma. 1: Texas. 2: Virginia. 1.—Exchange.

ACCORDING to the records compiled by Tuskegee Institute, there were twenty-eight persons lynched in 1923 as compared with fifty-seven in 1922. Of the persons lynched in 1923, twenty-six were Negroes. Rape or attempted rape was the charge in seven of the cases. Florida and Mississippi had eight lynchings each and Georgia four. Seven of the persons lynched were taken from jails and six from the hands of officers of the law. There were forty-six instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings; in eight instances persons charged with lynching were brought to trial, but only two lynchers were sent to the penitentiary. On the whole, the record is a great improvement over earlier years. There is unquestionably a growing sentiment against lynching, and we are probably justified in crediting it with a part of the improvement. Other factors are the movement of Negroes out of the localities where lynching is popular, and a late realization that the prosperity of the South depends on holding the Negro worker.

CINCIN., O. CHRIS. STAN.
FEBRUARY 21. 1924

Annual Lynching Record Shows Improvement

STATISTICS annually distributed by Tuskegee Institute in regard to lynching in the United States show a considerable lessening in this form of social sin during 1923. In contrast to the 57 lynchings of 1922, the 28 of 1923 (just less than one-half), looks encouraging. Florida and Mississippi have assumed the dismal leadership in this business of mob execution; Georgia stands in third place; nine states had one lynching or more within their borders. On the other hand, there were 46 cases in which mobs, bent upon lynching, were balked of their prey. In four of these cases the intended victims were women, three of them white. The more rigorous attitude of the public is shown in the bringing to trial of 52 persons charged with being members of lynching mobs. That but two of these were sent to the penitentiary is evidence that our courts have still some distance to go before they can be said to be dealing adequately with the issues involved. While it will take more than one year's record to tell whether or not the United States is at last on the way toward the elimination of this stain from its record as a civilized state, the improvement now reported is so striking that all sorts of explanations are being offered for it. From these three are most worthy of attention. The migration of the Negro has, on his own evidence, been largely caused by his desire to leave what he has considered the lynching "danger zone," and has actually removed hundreds of thousands from the regions in which mob action has been most frequent. Out of this migration has come a new appreciation of the economic value of the Negro to the south. These two factors have probably been the most potent in challenging the use of the rope and the stake. But underneath all there has been the constant agitation conducted by the Christian forces of the country, culminating during the past few years in the constructive efforts of the Committee on Interracial Cooperation. Service of this kind is not spectacular, but it evolves slowly that change of mind out of which alone there can come a permanent improvement of the relations between the races.

BRIDGEPORT CONN. HERALD
DECEMBER 30, 1923

Big Drop In Lynchings

Any decrease in the number of lynchings in America is welcome to those who look upon lynching as the country's outstanding shame. It is a pleasure, therefore, to read the report of Principal R. R. Moton of Tuskegee Institute showing that only 28 persons were lynched during 1923 as against 57 in 1922. This is a cut of 50 per cent and if lynchings can be reduced to the same degree for the next two or three years the vile system will be entirely eliminated.

Principal Moton finds:

"Thirteen of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 7 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails.

"There were 46 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Four women, 3 white and 1 colored, were among those thus saved. Six of these preventions of lynchings were in Northern States and 40 in Southern States. In 37 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In the 9 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. In 8 instances during the year persons charged with being connected with lynching mobs were brought to trial. Of the 52 persons thus before the courts only 2 were sent to the penitentiary.

"Of the 28 persons lynched in 1923, 26 were Negroes and 2 were whites; two of the former were women, 7 or one-fourth of those put to death were charged with rape or attempted rape; one of the victims was burned to death; one was put to death and then the body was burned. The charge against the one burned to death was murder.

"The offenses charged against the whites were: participation in strike depredations, 1; being taken as a Negro, 1. The offenses charged against the Negroes were: murder, 3; murderous assault, 2; rape, 6; attempted rape, 1; killing officer of the law, 2; wounding officer of the law, 2; no charge reported, 3; assisting man charged with rape to escape, 1; resisting posse searching for man charged with rape, 1; cattle stealing, 1; 'trying to act like white man and not knowing his place,' 1; insulting woman, 1; peeping in window, 1; striking man in altercation, 1.

"The nine states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 2; Florida, 8; Georgia, 4; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 8; Missouri, 1; Oklahoma, 1; Texas, 2; Virginia, 1."

Orangeburg, S.C.
JAN 3 - 1924 Times

Lynchings in 1923.

From January 2, 1922 until today, over two years, there has been no lynching in the State of South Carolina. This is a good record, and speaks well for the good sense and judgment of our people. Let us all hope that the year 1924 will not mar this record.

Lynchings decreased all over the South in 1923, for, according to figures by the colored Tuskegee Institute the number of lynchings in the nation fell off from 57 in 1922 to only 28 in 1923, and, we may be sure, that most of the Southern lynchings have been recorded, although the famous Herrin (Ill.) nine lynchings were entirely ignored in the lynchings statistics of Tuskegee for that year.

Another factor of the Tuskegee report for 1923 worthy of pride is that on forty different occasions white officers of the law prevented the lynching of their prisoners, or that for nearly every lynching two such barbarous episodes were smothered by brave officials.

Carlisle, Ky. Mercury
JAN 10 1924

LYNCHINGS IN 1923
DROP 50 PER CENT

Lynchings in the United States decreased more than 50 per cent during 1923, as compared with 1922, according to figures made public by the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute. During 1923 there were twenty-eight lynchings as compared with fifty-seven for the preceding year, these figures showed. Twenty-six of the number were negroes and two were whites. Two women were among the victims of mobs.

Lynchings—1923.

Reports on Sent Press.

Jan.—Dec.

1490

SAN FRANCISCO CAL. JOURNAL
MARCH 3, 1924

CAUSE AND EFFECT

Negro lynchings dwindle as South realizes economic value of the colored man.

"Experience is a dear school," said Franklin, "but fools will learn in no other." It would appear from the statistics on lynchings in the South that the Southern negroes do not approve of the custom. Offered an economic opportunity to get away from the danger zone, they accepted it with alacrity. The year 1923 marked two social phenomena: the northerly migration of the negro and the cutting in half of the number of lynchings.

When the colored men left the South in great numbers, the Southerner awakened to the economic asset he was driving away. It is an old axiom that one may catch more flies with sugar than vinegar. The South can not have the immensely valuable cooperation of the negro, and lynch him. If it is true that many of the migrants are drifting back to their old homes and haunts, the new appreciation of the economic value of the negro to the South has something to do with it.

In contrast to the fifty-seven lynchings of 1922, the twenty-eight of 1923 looks encouragnig. Whether this improvement is to be permanent remains to be seen. It is also encouraging to learn that various Southern communities brought to trial fifty-two persons charged with being members of lynching parties. There were also forty-six instances in which lynching parties were balked in their designs. This shows a changed attitude on the part of public officials.

Public opinion has apparently shifted sufficiently in Southern states to give the negro accused of crime a better chance before the law than he has had in many a year. A good bit of credit for this change should be given to the Tuskegee Institute, from which have regularly come detailed statistics on this social evil, carefully analyzed and presented to the press of the country without bitterness.

If the decrease in lynchings for 1924 should prove as large as the decrease of 1923, the whole hideous business will have been wiped out. This is not too much to hope for.

NEW YORK CITY MAIL
JANUARY 3, 1924

Decline of Lynching

Among the good things to be recorded of the year 1923 is that it saw a notable decline in the number of lynchings. The number of these barbarities to the discredit of 1922 was fifty-seven, while in the twelve months just ended the figure is twenty-eight. While rejoicing over such a notable improvement, no truly civilized American will be satisfied with it. Twenty-eight lynchings are just twenty-eight evidences that we still have large communities of Americans who have not been able to subject their savage passions to the discipline of civilization.

Of the twenty-eight persons lynched two were whites, one of whom was dead before it was found that he was not a negro, as the mob supposed! Of the negroes lynched two were women.

Only seven of the twenty-six negroes lynched were charged with rape or attempted rape. One was put to death for the high crime of "trying to act like a white man and not knowing his place."

Undoubtedly one of the reasons for the diminution in the number of these cowardly crimes is that southern farmers have begun to realize the economic foolishness of persecuting the negro. But another lies in the development of a higher sense of duty on the part of officers of the law. No less than forty-six attempted lynchings, all but six of them in southern States, were thwarted. This is probably due to the admirable campaign which many southern newspapers have been conducting for the removal of the greatest blot on the southland's escutcheon.

Apparently, however, it is as yet almost impossible to convict those who take part in lynching bees. In only eight cases was any attempt made to do so, and of the fifty-two mobsters tried only two were sent to the penitentiary.

Here in the North colored men and women are taking an increasingly dignified and useful part not only in the economic but even in the intellectual life of the cities in which they find themselves. Real equality before the law has given them self-confidence. They have the same freedom as white folk to enjoy the fruits of their achievement, and their achievements prove that the North is not only just but wise in the welcome it has given them.

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JANUARY 3, 1924

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DEC 28 1923

PREVENTING LYNCHINGS.

According to the annual report which Tuskogee Institute makes on the lynching record, there were twenty-eight persons lynched. That is bad. But the whole story should be told. The report shows that in 46 instances officers of the law prevented lynchings, six times in the North and forty times in the South. The chances are that many if not most of the actual lynchings could have been prevented if officers of the law had been as active in the performance of their duties, as courageous and as impervious to political influences as they should have been been. It is worth special mention that in so many instances officers of the law were brave enough either to attend to the protection of their prisoners without outside help or were quick to call for the necessary aid to give them ample protection. Seldom is it that there is the slightest excuse for a lynching after an officer

MAR 27 1924

Lynching on the Decline

(*From the New York Evening Post.*)

Lynching is becoming increasingly unpopular in America. There are a number of reasons for this decrease in lawlessness. One outstanding factor, so far as the South is concerned, is the tremendous exodus of negroes during the years that have followed the war.

An acute labor situation has undoubtedly helped the status of the negro; his departure by the trainload has forced the South into a realization of its dependence upon his work. The steady decrease in negro population has eased the tension in other ways. There is only one State left—Mississippi—in which the negroes outnumber the whites; and back of much of the mistreatment of the negro race has been a hidden fear of domination, which passes with the return of white supremacy in numbers.

There were only twenty-eight cases of fatal mob violence in 1923, nine States sharing in the disgrace of these lyinchings. Back in 1892 there were 252 lynchings.

The decrease should go steadily on until the time comes when the record will show no case of an extra-legal execution. Southern States that have recently joined the honor roll should guard their records jealously. There, as elsewhere, mob violence can in nearly every case be forestalled by prompt and courageous action on the part of officers of the law.

Concord, N. H. Tribune

JAN 2 1924

DECREASE IN LYNCHINGS.

Lynchings in the United States decreased more than 50 per cent. in 1923 as compared with 1922, according to figures made public by the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute. Twenty-six of the number were negroes, it is reported, and two white and two of the victims were women.

Mississippi and Florida had the greatest number of lynchings, according to the figures. Each of these States had eight. Georgia had four, Arkansas two Texas two, Virginia one, Missouri one Oklahoma one and Louisiana one. No lynchings were reported in North Carolina, South Carolina and Alabama, the report shows.

This report shows a marked increase in respect for law. The lyncher will not survive long if his business shows many such decreases as it showed last year. A cut of more than 50 per cent. will ruin any business.

has taken a criminal prisoner; a courageous officer usually can protect his man. Too often the mob knows that there will be a "mistake" made, or a mere show of resistance offered, and then the officer will think he has done his duty. His real duty is to protect that prisoner from the mob and the duty is one he owes not so much to the prisoner, however great that duty may be, as to the community he serves.

NEW YORK CITY TRIBUNE
JANUARY 2, 1924

The War Against Lynchings

At the beginning of the negro migration "The Columbia (S. C.) State" remarked that when the farmers began to understand that every outburst of mob violence would be followed by the exodus of thousands of negro laborers to the North a tide of public opinion against lynchings would set in. Whether public opinion and self-interest have been aroused, or for whatever reason, the lynchings of 1923 were less than half as many as those of 1922, according to the record kept by Tuskegee Institute.

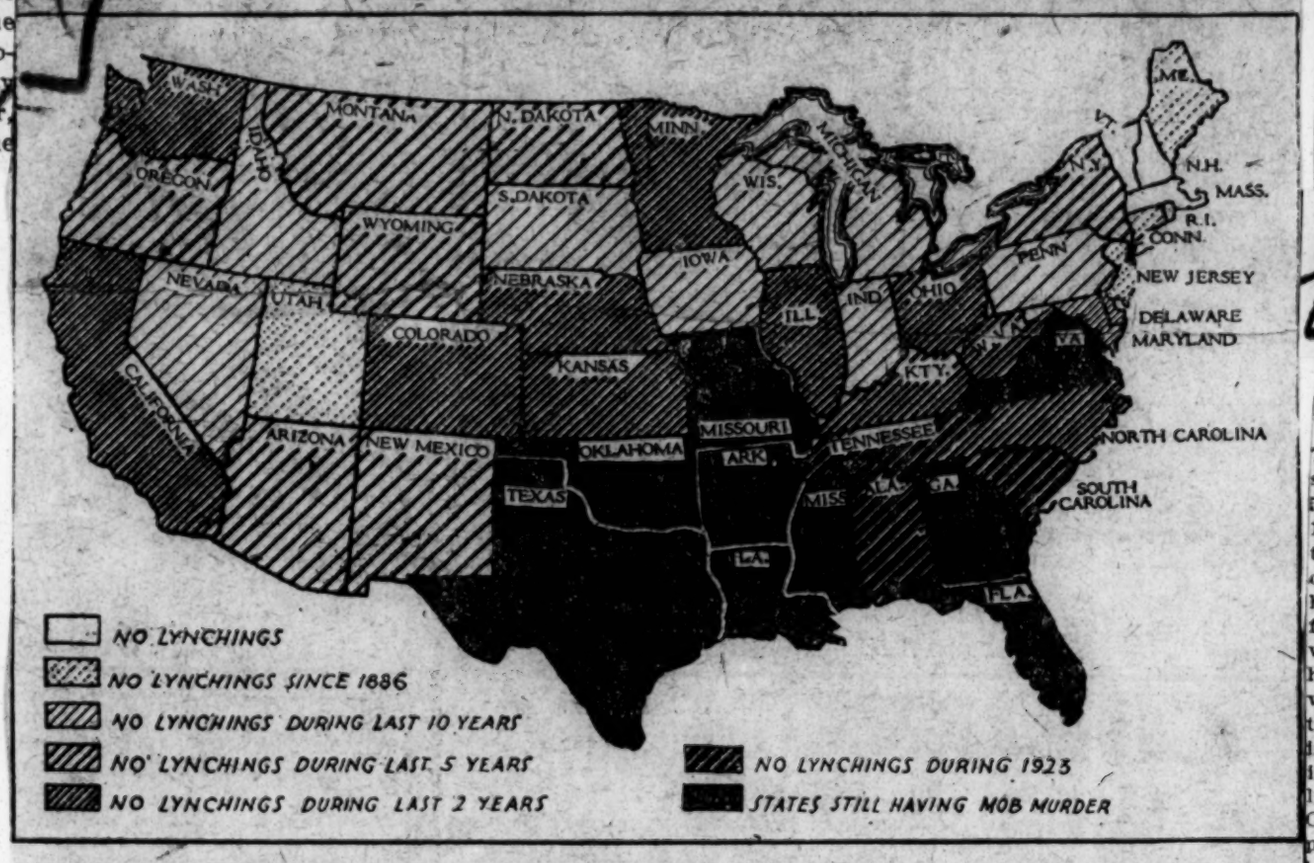
Last year 28 persons (26 negroes) were lynched, as against 57 in 1922. The cause of this striking reduction may be related to the fact of the negro migration and perhaps also to the attempt at Federal legislation against lynching which failed through a filibuster in the Senate. The threat of Federal interference with mob law may be having a deterrent effect.

But the real cure for lynching is an aroused public sentiment, of which there are hopeful indications. In 48 instances in 1923 officers of the law prevented lynchings; only 6 of these in the North. The obligation to protect prisoners by adequate guard and by force of arms, if necessary, is now fully recognized and acted upon in every state. In 13 cases the custodians failed to safeguard their charges, but it is no longer customary to surrender victims tamely to a lynching bee.

It will not be possible entirely to stamp out mob murder as an institution until punishment follows the crime. Of the 52 persons brought to trial last year in connection with lynchings, only two were sent to jail. It is still safe to be mixed up in a lynching affair when juries have not the courage or the will to convict and public sentiment supports them.

LYNCHINGS IN UNITED STATES IN 1923 WERE THE FEWEST ON RECORD

DALLAS TEX. NEWS
APRIL 9, 1924



Only twenty-eight lynchings were recorded in the United States in 1923, according to figures compiled recently by the Literary Digest and published in connection with a map indicating the localities where lynchings are most prevalent and where they are least prevalent. The record of 1923 compares with thirty-eight lynchings in 1917, which, until last year, was the lowest in the history of the country. In 1892 there were 253 lynchings, which is said to be the largest number in one year on record. The figures are based on records kept by Monroe N. Work at Tuskegee Institute and the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. Of the twenty-eight persons who were victims of the lynchings twenty-six were negroes.

NEW YORK CITY TIMES
JANUARY 1, 1924

Lynchings

Principal R. R. Moton of the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute reports as follows on the year's crime and disaster as compiled by Monroe N. Work of the Department of Records of the institute:

"I find that there were twenty-eight persons lynched in 1923. This is twenty-nine less than the number fifty-seven for the year 1922. Thirteen of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, seven from jails and six from officers of the law outside of jails.

"We also found that there were forty-six instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Four women, three white and one colored, were among those thus saved. Six of these preventions of lynchings were in Northern States and forty in Southern States. In thirty-seven of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In the nine other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. In eight instances during the year persons charged with being connected with lynching mobs were brought to trial. Of the fifty-two persons thus before the courts only two were sent to the penitentiary.

"Of the twenty-eight persons lynched in 1923, twenty-six were negroes and two were whites; two of the former were women. Seven, or one-fourth of those put to death, were charged with rape or attempted rape; one of the victims was burned to death; one was put to death and then the body was burned. The charge against the one burned to death was murder.

"The offenses charged against the whites were: participation in strike depredations, 1; being taken as a negro, 1. The offenses charged against the negroes were: murder, 3; murderous assault, 2; rape, 6; attempted rape, 1; killing officer of the law, 2; wounding officer of the law, 2; no charge reported, 3; assisting man charged with rape to escape, 1; resisting posse searching for man charged with rape, 1; cattle stealing, 1; "trying to act like white man and not knowing his place," 1; insulting woman, 1; peeping in window, 1; striking man in altercation, 1.

"The nine states in which lynching occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 2; Florida, 3; Georgia, 4; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 3; Missouri, 1; Oklahoma, 1; Texas, 3; Virginia, 1."

NEW YORK CITY AMERICAN
JANUARY 2, 1924

28 Lynchings for 1923 Halves Record of 1922

TUSKEGEE, Jan. 1.—Lynchings in the United States decreased more than fifty per cent during 1923, as compared with 1922, according to figures made public by the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute.

During 1923 there were 28 lynchings. Twenty-six of the number were negroes. Two women were among the victims.

BURLINGTON VT. NEWS
MARCH 1, 1924

Not a Lynching in Alabama.

Not a lynching to sully its good name occurred in Alabama last year, according to the report of the Tuskegee Institute which keeps an accurate record of these outbreaks from year to year. Alabama has never attained the bad eminence achieved by Georgia, Mississippi and some other commonwealths featured by this form of lawless. Only one instance of mob violence having occurred within the state in 1922 and only two in 1921. The notable improvement in the general situation and the marked decrease in the number of these outbursts is believed to be due both to the greater efficiency of officials in checking mobs and in a growth of public sentiment against mob action. What is needed to reduce lynchings to a minimum and ultimately to wipe out the evil altogether is not additional laws such as congress is seeking to enact but an increase of public sentiment that will condemn lawlessness and demand prompt action against those who presume to take the law into their own hands. There is no reason to believe that federal interference in the matter would accomplish the slightest benefit, but would on the contrary bring about a regrettable clash between local and national authorities and produce worse evils than those it would seek to cure.—Selma Times-Journal.

Hattiesburg American
JAN 4 1924

ONLY 28 LYNCHINGS LAST YEAR

(From the New Republic)

According to the records complied by Tuskegee Institute, there were 28 persons lynched in 1923 as compared with 57 in 1922. Of the persons lynched in 1923, 26 were negroes. Rape or attempted rape was the charge in seven of the cases. Florida and Miss'ssipp had eight lynchings each and Georgia four. Seven of the persons lynched were taken from jails and six from the hands of officers of the law. There were 46 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings; in eight instances persons charged with lynching were brought to trial, but only two lynchers were sent to the penitentiary. On the whole, the record is a great improvement over earlier years. There is unquestionably a growing sentiment against lynching, and we are probably justified in crediting it with a part of the improvement. Other factors are the movement of Negroes out of the localities where lynching is popular, and a late realization that the prosperity of the South depends on holding the Negro worker.

DECATUR (ILL.) REVIEW
TUESDAY, JANUARY 1, 1924

U. S. LYNCHINGS CUT IN HALF

1923 Figures Show 28 While 57 Were Killed in 1922.

Tuskegee, Ala., Jan. 1—Lynchings in the United States decreased more than 50 per cent during 1923 as compared with 1922 according to figures made public by the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute.

During 1923 there were 28 lynchings as compared with 57 preceding year, these figures showed. Twenty six were negroes and two were whites. Two women were included.

Lynchings—1923.
Reports on Sent Press

Jan. —Dec.

1491

TIFFIN O ADVERTISER
DECEMBER 27, 1923

Data compiled by the Tuskegee Institute show that the number of lynchings in this country during the past year was only 28, the number having decreased almost exactly fifty per cent from the total of the previous year. This is an excellent showing, if the trend is due to a normal reaction against this, one of the greatest of all crimes because it is a crime of society instead of the individual. If the sentiment against lynchings is growing and if the past year is an illustration of its rapid growth, it ought not to be many years before the rule of unlicensed mob law in this country will be as conspicuous for its absence as it is in many countries where lynching is unknown. There may however be a question whether circumstances other than sentiment against lynch law have not had something to do with the decrease of this class of crime. It is possible that the list of atrocious crimes of individuals, such as generally excite lynch law, has been far less frequent during the same period. Then again it is possible that there has been a more rigid enforcement of our criminal laws. If the latter is the case then the explanation for the decrease in lynchings probably lies in that direction. Nothing would do more to deter the will of the mob than the knowledge that the arm of constituted law is long and unerring. This only can be brought about by the creation of a strong sentiment for the strict enforcement of organized law instead of loosing unbridled, the will of the mob.

UPPER SANDUSKY, O. CHIEF

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te DEC 31 1923

LYNCHING STATISTICS.

The following concerning lynchings for the past year was compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research, Monroe N. Work in charge. There were twentyeight persons lynched in 1923. This is twenty-nine less than the number fiftyseven for the year 1922. Thirteen of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, seven from jails and six from officers of the law outside of jails. There were forty-six instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Four women, three white and one colored, were among those thus saved. Six of these preventions of lynchings were in northern states and forty in southern states. In thirty-seven cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In the nine other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. In eight intsances during the year persons charged with being connected with lynching mobs were brought to trial. Of the fiftytwo persons thus before the courts only two were sent to the penitentiary. Of the twentyeight persons lynched in 1923, twentysix were negroes and two were whites; two of the former were women . Seven or one fourth of those put to death were charged with rape or attempted rape; one of the victims were burned to death, one was put to death and then the body was burned. The charge against the one burned to death was murder. The nine states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, two; Florida, eight; Georgia, four; Louisiana, one; Mississippi, eight; Missouri, one; Oklahoma, one; Texas, two; Virginia, one .

NASHVILLE, TENN.
Tennessean.
DEC 28 1923

Communications

THE LYNCHING RECORD.

Editor The Tennessean:

I send you the following concerning lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research, Monroe N. Work in charge. I find that there were 28 persons lynched in 1923. This is 29 less than the number 57 for the year 1922. Thirteen of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 7 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails.

We also find that there were 46 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Four women, 3 white and 1 colored, were among those thus saved. Six of these preventions of lynchings were in Northern states, and 40 in Southern states. In 37 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In the 9 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. In 8 instances during the year persons charged with being connected with lynching mobs were brought to trial. Of the 52 persons thus before the courts only 2 were sent to the penitentiary.

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The offense charged against the whites were: Participation in strike depredations, 1; being taken as a Negro, 1. The offenses charged against the Negroes were: Murder, 3; murderous assault, 2; rape, 6; attempted rape, 1; killing officer of the law, 2; wounding officer of the law, 2; no charge reported, 3; assisting man charged with rape to escape, 1; resisting posse searching for man charged with rape, 1; cattle stealing, 1; "trying to act like white man and not knowing his place," 1; insulting woman, 1; peeping in window, 1; striking man in altercation, 1.

The nine states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 2; Florida, 8; Georgia, 4; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 8; Missouri, 1; Oklahoma, 1; Texas, 2; Virginia, 1.

Yours very truly,
R. R. MOTON, Principal.
Tuskegee, Ala., Dec. 31.

Sumter, S. C.
JAN 3 - 1924 Herald

Clean Record as to Lynchings.

Columbia, Dec. 31.—The year 1923 was noteworthy in South Carolina because, among other things, the state had a clean record as to lynchings, according to a statement made tonight at the office of Governor McLeod.

Last year lacked but one day of having a clear record, as the last lynching marked up for South Carolina occurred on January 1, 1922, in Aiken county, it was said.

MONTROSE COLO. PRESS
JANUARY 1, 1924

Lynchings Are Cut in Half; Claim 2 Women Victims

TUSKEGEE, Ala., Jan. 1.—(AP)—Lynchings in the United States decreased 50 per cent in the last year, compared with 1922, according to the Tuskegee Normal Industrial Institute, in 1923 there were 28 lynchings compared with 57 the previous year.

Twenty-six negroes and two whites, two being women, were among the victims. Mississippi and Florida each had eight, Georgia four, Arkansas and Texas two each, Virginia, Missouri, Oklahoma and Louisiana one each.

Greenville N.C
Reflector
JAN 1 - 1924

PAST YEAR SHOWS FEW LYNCHINGS; 57 LYNCHED IN 1922 AGAINST 28, 1923

According to statistics compiled and furnished by R. R. Morton, principal Tuskegee Institute, of Alabama, lynchings during the year just ended show a decrease of over 50 per cent over the preceding year the number being decreased from 57 to 28.

The report is as follows:

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We also find that there were 46 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Four women, 3 white and 1 colored, were among those thus saved. Six of these preventions of lynchings were in northern states and 40 in southern states. In 37 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precaution take. In the 9 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. In 8 instances during the year persons charged with being connected with lynching mobs were brought to trial. Of the 52 persons thus before the courts only 2 were sent to the penitentiary.

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The offenses charged against the whites were: Participation in strike depredations, 1; being taken as a negro, 1. The offenses charged against the negroes were: Murder 3; murderous assault, 2; rape, 6 attempted rape, 1; killing officer of the law, 2; wounding officer of the law, 2; no charge reported, 3; assisting man charged with rape to escape, 1; resisting posse searching for man charged with rape, 1; cattle stealing, 1; "trying to act like white man and not knowing his place," 1 insulting woman, 1; peeping in window, 1; striking man in altercation 1.

The nine states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arskansas, 2; Florida, 8; Georgia, 4; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 8; Missouri, 1; Oklahoma 1; Texas, 2; Virginia, 1.

Oglethorpe Ga.
JAN 4 - 1924
Citizen

LYNCHINGS SHOW BIG DECREASE IN YEAR JUST ENDED

During 1923 There Were 28, as Compared With 57 for 1922—Georgia Had Four.

TUSKEGEE, Ala., Jan. 1.—Yynchings in the United States decreased more than 50 per cent during 1923 as compared with 1922, according to figures made public by the Tuskegee Normal and. Industrial Institute. During 1923 there were 28 lynchings as compared with 57 for the preceding year, these figures showed. Twenty-six of the number were negroes and two whites. Two women were among the victims of the mobs.

These figures gave Mississippi and Florida eight lynchings each, Georgia four, Arkansas two, Texas two, Virginia one, Missouri one, Oaklahoma one, Louisiana one. None were reported from North Carlina or South Corolina, occording to the Tuskegee compilation.

The Tuskegee report says there were forty-six instances during the year in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Forty of these cases were in Southern states and six in Northern states.

Thirteen of those lynched last year were taken from the hands of the law, the report states, seven from jails and six from officers outside the jails. Seven of the victims were charged with attack or attempted attack, three with murder, two with murderous assault, two for wounding an officer of the law, and the rest with other offenses.

GASTONIA, N. C.
Gazette
JAN 2 - 1924

RECORD OF LYNCHINGS FOR THE PAST YEAR.

To The Editor Gazette:

I send you the following concerning lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research, Monroe W. Work in charge. I find that there were 28 persons lynched in 1923. This is 29 less than the number 57 for the year 1922. Thirteen of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 7 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails.

We also find that there were 46 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Four women, 3 white and one colored, were among those thus saved. Six of these preventions of lynchings were in Northern States and 40 in Southern States. In 37 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In the 9 other instances ,armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. In 8 instances during the year persons charged with being connected with lynching mobs were brought to trial. Of the 52 persons thus before the courts only 2 were sent to the penitentiary.

Of the 28 persons lynched in 1923, 26 were negroes and 2 were whites; two of the former were women. Seven or 1-4 of those put to death were charged with rape or attempted rape; one of the victims was burned to death; one was put to death and then the body was burned. The charge against the one burned to death was murder.

The offenses charged against the whites were: participation in strike depredations, 1; being taken as a negro, 1. The offenses charged against the negroes were: murder, 3; murderous assault, 2; rape, 6; attempted rape, 1; killing officer of the law, 2; wounding officer of the law, 2; no charge reported, 3; assisting man charged with rape to escape, 1; resisting posse searching for man charged with rape, 1; cattle stealing, 1; "trying to act like white man and not knowing his place", 1; insulting woman, 1; peeping in window, 1; striking man in altercation 1.

The nine states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 2; Florida, 8; Georgia, 4; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 8: Missouri, 1; Oklahoma, 1; Texas, 2; Virginia, 1.

Yours vehy truly,
R R MOTON, Principal.

CHICAGO ILL POST
JANUARY 16, 1924

Lynchings in 1923.

TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE, Ala., Jan. 15.—To the Editor of The Post. Sir: I send you the following concerning lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee institute in the department of records and research, Monroe N. Work in charge. I find that there were twenty-eight persons lynched in 1923. This is twenty-nine less than the fifty-seven for the year 1922. Thirteen of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, seven from jails and six from officers of the law outside of jails.

We also find that there were forty-six instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Four women, three white and one colored, were among those thus saved. Six of these preventions of lynchings were in northern states and forty in southern states. In thirty-seven of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In the nine other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. In eight instances during the year persons charged with being connected with lynching mobs were brought to trial. Of the fifty-two persons thus before the courts only two were sent to the penitentiary.

Of the twenty-eight persons lynched in 1923, twenty-six were negroes and two were whites; two of the former were women. Seven or one-fourth of those put to death were charged with rape or attempted rape; one of the victims was burned to death; one was put to death and then the body was burned. The charge against the one burned to death was murder.

The offense charged against the whites were: Participation in strike depredations, one; being taken as a negro, one. The offenses charged against the negroes were: Murder, three; murderous assault, two; rape, six; attempted rape, one; killing officer of the law, two; wounding officer of the law, two; no charge reported, three; assisting man charged with rape, one; cattle stealing, one; "trying to act like white man and not knowing his place," one; insulting woman, one; peeping in window, one; striking man in altercation, one.

The nine states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, two; Florida, eight; Georgia, four; Louisiana, one; Mississippi, eight; Missouri, one; Oklahoma, one; Texas, two and Virginia one.

R. R. MOTON.

killing officer of the law, 2; wounding officer of the law, 2; no charge reported, 3; assisting man charged with rape to escape, 1; resisting posse searching for man charged with rape, 1; cattle stealing, 1; "trying to act like white man and not knowing his place," 1; insulting woman, 1; peeping in window, 1; striking man in altercation, 1.

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ASHEVILLE, N. C. CITIZEN
Times
JAN 5 - 1924

THE GREATEST GAIN.

(Greensboro Daily News)

Major Robert R. Moton, principal of Tuskegee, explains just who had the spasm of virtue which showed itself in only 28 lynchings in the United States for 1923.

In attempting to analyze the uncommonly low figures last week, we thought it necessary to remark on the general tendency toward normal conduct throughout that year. As the world was less excited than usual, so was the criminal portion of it. There were only 26 negroes lynched throughout the nation last year, North and South Carolina and Alabama were without mob murder at all.

Making liberal allowance for the improved conduct of the negroes, who suffered nearly all these violent deaths, the thing which seems to have done most to reduce the lynchings was the greater vigilance of the officers who are entrusted with the safe-keeping of their prisoners. There would have been many more lynchings than were recorded had not the officers prevented 48 of these. The best feature of this record is that it is a southern story. In the north six attempts at lynching were stopped and in the south 40 were thwarted. Of these successful repulses of mob attack, three white women and one negro woman were the criminals sought.

Which means that the greatest gain in the splendid showing against group murder is the tardy recognition by officers of their obligation to protect prisoners. In 13 cases the custodian of prisoners failed and the criminals were taken from the officers. Jails were broken in seven of these and six were snatched from officers seeking to deliver them to prisons. But in 31 instances prisoners were saved by removal or by augmentation of police forces sufficient to protect the accused.

The record is marred by the failure to convict more than two of the 52 persons brought to trial for participating in these lynchings. It is still almost impossible to convict the mob.

Lynchings

Principal R. R. Moton of the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute reports as follows on the year's crime and disaster as compiled by Monroe N. Work of the Department of Records of the institute:

N.Y. Times
1-1-24

"I find that there were twenty-eight persons lynched in 1923. This is twenty-nine less than the number fifty-seven for the year 1922. Thirteen of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, seven from jails and six from officers of the law outside of jails.

"We also found that there were forty-six instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Four women, three white and one colored, were among those thus saved. Six of these preventions of lynchings were in Northern States and forty in Southern States. In thirty-seven of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In the nine other instancs, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. In eight instances during the year persons charged with being connected with lynching mobs were brought to trial. Of the fifty-two persons thus before the courts only two were sent to the penitentiary.

"Of the twenty-eight persons lynched in 1923, twenty-six were negroes and two were whites; two of the former were women. Seven, or one-fourth of those put to death, were charged with rape or attempted rape; one of the victims was burned to death; one was put to death and then the body was burned. The charge against the one burned to death was murder.

"The offenses charged against the whites were: participation in strike depredations, 1; being taken as a negro, 1. The offenses charged against the negroes were: murder, 3; murderous assault, 2; rape, 6; attempted rape, 1

PORTLAND ORE OREGONIAN
JANUARY 5, 1924

LYNCHING DECLINES.

Two major causes help to account for the marked decline of lynching in the United States during 1923. Agitation for federal anti-lynching law may have contributed to the result, as an official of the Association for the Advancement of Colored People thinks it did, but it is also an engaging theory that the northward migration of negroes by hundreds of thousands "has borne in on the south that lynching will have to be stopped if the best labor that the south can get for its plantations and industries is to be retained." The figures would seem in any event to show that determined public opinion can largely prevent lynching. That there have been only twenty-six such offenses against public morals during the year just drawing to close when there were sixty-one in the preceding year can hardly be explained as a mere coincidence.

The record for lynching prevention also improves. Forty-six instances are reported — forty of them in the south—in which officers of the law successfully resisted or circumvented mobs. Armed force was used to repel attacks on officers in nine instances, prisoners were removed or guards were augmented in others. But the history of the year as a whole demonstrates what has long been surmised, that determined officers can usually prevent lynching if they try and that it practically never occurs in the face of an adverse popular sentiment. The proverbial cowardice of mobs puts the odds in the hands of the officers and lynchings do not occur in communities whose machinery of justice is unimpaired.

It will be still more fortunate if next year shall witneses still further progress. It probably were best, all things considered, for the problem to be solved without recourse to federal interference in a matter which ought to be cared for by the states themselves. The most effective argument for the Dyer anti-lynching bill was that certain of the states had proved themselves incompetent to abate the evil at which the bill was aimed. A 60 per cent reduction in a year is fairly a token of good faith; a continuance of the good showing would logically forestall federal legislation with the humiliating confession that it would involve.

Butler Eagle
JAN 10 1924

Lynchings in the United States decreased more than 50% during 1923 as compared with 1922, according to figures made public Jan. 1st by the Tuskegee Norman Land Industrial Institute. During 1923 there were 28 lynchings compared with 57 for the preceding year. Twenty-six were negroes and two whites. Mississippi and Florida led with eight lynchings each. Georgia was second with four. Let us hope that the good year 1924 will be observed as an off year for lynchings in Georgia

Lynchings—1923.
Reports on Sent Press.

Jan.—Dec.

1492

WINSTON SALEM, N. C., Sentinel

DEC 22 1923

ONLY 26 LYNCHINGS IN U. S. THIS YEAR

New York, Dec. 22—Lynchings in the United States during 1923 numbered 26 against 61 in 1922, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People announced yesterday. The decrease was laid to agitation for a federal anti-lynching law and the northward migration of negroes. Mississippi and Florida were reported to lead with five lynchings each. Georgia was listed with four, Oklamoha three and Arkansas, Alabama and Texas two each. Louisiana, Missouri and Virginia each had one.

COLUMBIA, S. C. RECORD

JAN 4 - 1924

Lynchings

New York Tribune.

At the beginning of the negro migration the Columbia (S. C.) State remarked that when the farmers began to understand that every outburst of mob violence would be followed by the exodus of thousands of negro laborers to the North a tide of public opinion against lynchings would set in. Whether public opinion and self-interest have been aroused, or for whatever reason, the lynchings of 1923 were less than half as many as those of 1922, according to the record kept by Tuskegee institute.

Last year 28 persons (26 negroes) were lynched, as against 57 in 1922. The cause of this striking reduction may be related to the fact of the negro migration and perhaps also to the attempt at federal legislation against lynching which failed through a filibuster in the senate. The threat of federal interference with mob law may be having a deterrent effect.

But the real cure for lynching is an aroused public sentiment, of which there are hopeful indications. In 48 instances in 1923 officers of the law prevented lynchings; only six of these in the North. The obligation to protect prisoners by adequate guard and by force of arms, if necessary, is now fully recognized and acted upon in every state. In 13 cases the custodians failed to safeguard their charges, but it is no longer customary to surrender victims tamely to a lynching bee.

It will not be possible entirely to stamp out mob murder as an institution until punishment follows the crime. Of the 52 persons brought to trial last year in connection with lynchings, only two were sent to jail. It is still safe to be mixed up in a lynching affair when juries have not the courage or the will to convict and public sentiment supports them.

LOUISVILLE KY POST
JANUARY 8, 1924

THE 1923 LYNCHING FIGURES.

The lynching record of the year 1923, that is just behind us, shows a marked improvement over that of the year before. In 1922 fifty-seven lynchings were reported; the total in 1923 was only twenty-eight. Twenty-eight is too many, but it is pleasing to note that the change is in the right direction. And it is extremely gratifying to note that not a single lynching took place in the State of Kentucky during the calendar year.

There is one part of the big 1923 lynching record that is not particularly pleasant. Of the twenty-eight persons lynched thirteen were in the custody of officers of the law. Seven were taken forcibly from jails and murdered by mobs. Seven were similarly murdered after being taken from the hands of peace officers in the open air.

What will be the story of this year of 1924 relative to lynchings none of us can be sure. The Post would like to feel that the decrease in this crime in 1923 over 1922 is a sign that as a nation we are getting ready to purge ourselves of this disgrace. But until we learn how to punish lynchers we will never be safe. There is absolutely no excuse for lynch law in free America. Lynchers are murderers, and should be dealt with as murderers of the darkest hue.

Columbus, Ga. Enquirer-Sun

JAN 1 - 1924

LYNCHINGS SHOW BIG DECREASE

Tuskegee Records Show Reduction From 57 in 1922 to 28 in 1923 — Florida and Mississippi Lead.

TUSKEGEE, Ala., Dec. 31.—Twenty-eight persons were lynched in 1923 according to the Department of Records and research of Tuskegee Institute. This is 29 less than the number, 57, for the year 1922. Thirteen of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 7 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails.

The department's record show that there were 46 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Four women, three white and one colored, were among those thus saved. Six of these preventions of lynchings were in northern states and 40 in southern states. In 37 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions were taken. In the nine other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. In eight instances during the year persons charged with being connected with lynching mobs were brought to trial. Of the 52 persons thus before the courts only 2 were sent to the penitentiary.

Of the 28 persons lynched in 1923, 26 were negroes and 2 were whites; two of the former were women. 7 or one fourth of those put to death were charged with assault or attempted assault. One of the victims was burned to death, one was put to death and then the body was burned. The charge against the one burned to death was murder.

The offenses charged against the whites were: participation in strike depredations, 1; being taken as a negro, 1; The offenses charged against the negroes were: murder, 3; murderous assault, 2; criminal assault, 6; attempted criminal assault; killing officer of the law, 2; wounding officer of the law, 2; no charge reported, 3; assisting man charged with assault to escape, 1; resisting posse searching for man charged with assault, 1; cattle stealing 1; "trying to act like white man and not knowing his place," 1; insulting woman, 1; peeping in window, 1; striking man in altercation, 1.

The nine states in which lynchings curred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 2; Florida, 8; Georgia, 4; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 8; Missouri, 1; Oklahoma, 1; Texas, 2; Virginia, 1.

SPARTANBURG S. C. Herald

JAN 5 - 1924

LYNCHINGS IN 1923.

(From the Orangeburg Times and Democrat.)

From January 2, 1922, until today, over two years, there has been no lynchings in the State of South Carolina. This is a good record, and speaks well for the good sense and judgment of our people. Let us all hope that the year 1924 will not mar this record.

Lynchings decreased all over the South in 1923, for, according to figures by the colored Tukegee Institute the number of lynchings in the nation fell off from 57 in 1922 to only 28 in 1923, and, we may be sure, that most of the Southern lynchings have been recorded, although the famous Herrin (Ill.) nine lynchings were entirely ignored in the lynchings statistics of Tuskegee for that year.

Another factor of the Tuskegee report for 1923 worthy of pride is that on forty different occasions white officers of the law prevented the lynching of their prisoners, or that for nearly every lynching two such barbarous episodes were smothered by brave officials.

Durham N. C. Sun

JAN 1 - 1924

Fewer Lynchings During Past Year

Tuskegee, Ala., Jan. 1.—Lynchings in the United States decreased more than 50 per cent during 1923, as compared with 1922, according to figures made public by the Tuskegee Institute today.

During 1923 there were 28 lynchings as compared with 57 for the previous year.

These figures gave Mississippi and Florida eight lynchings each, Georgia 4, Texas 2, Oklahoma 1, Arkansas 1.

None was reported from North Carolina, South Carolina and Alabama according to the institute.

Elberton, Ga. Star

JAN 1 - 1924

Lynchings on Decrease All Over the Country

Dear Sir:

I send you the following concerning lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the department of Records and Research, Monroe N. Work in charge. I find that there were 28 persons lynched in 1923. This is 29 less than the number 57 for the year 1922. Thirteen of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, seven from jails and six from officers of the law outside of jails.

We also find that there were 46 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Four women, 3 white and 1 colored, were among those thus saved. Six of these preventions of lynchings were in Northern states and 40 in Southern states. In 37 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In the 9 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. In eight instances during the years persons charged with being connected with lynching mobs were brought to trial. Of the 52 persons thus before the

courts only 2 were sent to the penitentiary.

Of the 28 persons lynched in 1923, 26 were negroes and two were whites; two of the former were women. Seven of one-fourth of those put to death were charged with rape or attempted rape; one of the victims was burned to death; one was put to death and then the body burned. The charge against the one burned to death was murder.

The offenses charged against the whites were: participation in strike depredations, 1; being taken as a negro, 1. The offenses charged against the negroes were: murder, 3; murderous assault, 2; rape, 6; attempted rape, 1; killing officer of the law, 2; wounding officer of the law, 2; no charge reported, 3; assisting man charged with rape to escape, 1; resisting posse searching for man charged with rape, 1; cattle stealing, 1; "trying to act like white man and not knowing his place," 1; insulting woman, 1; peeping in window, 1; striking man in altercation 1.

The nine states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 2; Florida, 8; Georgia 4; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 8; Missouri, 1; Oklahoma, 1; Texas, 2; Virginia, 1.

Yours very truly,

R. R. MOTON,

Princip

Okome, Ga -

News

JAN 2 - 1924

Tuskegee Reports Fewer Lynchings

To The News-Tribune:

I send you the following concerning lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research, Monroe N. Work in charge. I find that there were 28 persons lynched in 1923. This is 29 less than the number 57 for the year 1922. Thirteen of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 7 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails.

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The offenses charged against the whites were: participation in strike depredations, 1; being taken as a negro, 1. The offenses charged against the negroes were: murder, 3; murderous assault, 2; rape, 6; attempted rape, 1; killing officer of the law, 2; wounding officer of the law, 2; no charge reported, 3; assisting man charged with rape to escape, 1; resisting posse searching for man charged with rape, 1; cattle stealing, 1; 'trying to act like white man and not knowing his place", 1; insulting woman, 1; peeping in window, 1; striking man in altercation 1.

The nine states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 2; Florida, 8; Georgia, 4; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 8; Missouri, 1; Oklahoma, 1; Texas, 2; Virginia, 1.

Brunswick Ga Pub

JANUARY 1, 1924

1923 LYNCHINGS RECORD LOWEST RECENT YEARS

HALF AS MANY LYNCHINGS ANI NEARLY FIFTY INSTANCES OF LYNCHINGS PREVENTED.

The Bulletin has received the following statement as to the 1923 lynching record from R. R. Moton, principal of the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute for negroes at Tuskegee, Alabama, the report having been complied by the department of research and records of the institute:

"There were 28 persons lynched in 1923. This is 29 less than the number 57 for the year 192. Thirteen of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law. 7 from jails and 6 from officers of the law octside of jails.

"We also find that there were 46 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Four women, 3 white and 1 colored, were among those thus saved. Six of these preventions of lynchings were in Northern States and 40 in Southern States. In 37 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In the 9 other instances. armed force was used to repe the would-be lynchers. In 8 instance. during the year persons charged with being connected with lynching mob were brought to trial. Of the 52 persons thus before the courts only tw were sent to the penitentiary.

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FORT COLLINS COLO. EXPRESS

JANUARY 1, 1924

Lynchings Decrease During Past Year

(By Associated Press Leased Wire)

TUSKEGEE, Ala., Jan. 1—Lynchings in the United States decreased more than 50 per cent during 1923, as compared with 1922, according to figures made public by the Tuskegee normal and industrial institute. During 1923 there were 28 lynchings as compared with 57 for the preceeding year, these figures showed. Twenty six of the number were negro and two were whites. Two women were among the victims of mobs.

These figures gave Mississipi and Florida eight lynchings each Georgia four; Arkansas two; Texas two; Virginia one; Missouri one; Oklahoma one; Louisiana one.

The Tuskegee report says there were forty six instances during the year in which officers of the law prevented lynchings.

Thompson Dallas Bookeye

DEC 28 1923

BIG DECREASE IN LYNCHINGS

Tuskegee, Ala., Dec. 27.—The following concerning lynchings for the past year is compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research, Monroe N. Work in charge. It is found that there were 28 persons lynched in 1923. This is 29 less than the number 57 for the year 1922. Thirteen of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 7 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails.

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Of the 28 persons lynched in 1923, 26 were negroes and 2 were whites; two of the former were women, 7, or one-fourth of those put to death were charged with rape or attempted rape; one of the victims was burned to death; one was put to death and then the body was burned. The charge against the one burned to death was murder.

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SPARTANBURG S. C

Journal

JAN 16 1924

Tuskegee Conference Opens 33rd Session

TUSKEGEE, Ala., Jan. 16.—The Tuskegee conference opened its 33rd annual session here today with the consideration of the farmers and their problems. Harvie Jordan of St. Matthews, S. C., was the principal speaker on the morning's program. Other features included an industrial demonstration by students of Tuskegee Institute, agricultural exhibits, a parade showing agricultural progress of Macon county, Alabama, and a round table discussion of agricultural problems by the farmers themselves.

Tomorrow will be devoted to a discussion of "good health, a national asset" by representatives of various health agencies. The chief speaker will be Dr. H. S. Cummings, surgeon general of the United States public health service.

Dr. Robert R. Moton, principal of the institute, stated at the meeting of the executive committee and trustees of the National Association of Teachers in Colored Schools meeting here, that from present indications, the conference this year will be more largely attended than that of any previous year.

Lynchings—1923.
Reports ~~in, Sent~~ Press.

Jan.—Dec.

1493

Hawkinsville Dispatch
JAN 2 - 1924

OF 1923

I send you the following concerning lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research, Monroe N. Work in charge.

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R. R. MOTON, Principal.

Lincolnton, N. C
Times —
JAN 8 - 1924

ONLY TWENTY-SIX LYNCHED IN 1923

Not a single negro, or white man either for that matter, was lynched in North Carolina during 1923, though there would have been a lynching in Mitchell county in November if the criminal had been caught promptly, and had not the soldiers been ordered out doubtless there would have been another lynching in Nash county. It is an undisputed fact that white men with red blood in their veins will not stand for violation of their white women by negro brutes and unless the criminal is speedily removed from the scene of his crime the end of a rope is his portion. Lynchings in the United States during 1923 numbered 26 against 61 in 1922, it is announced by some kind of a negro organization for the advancement of the colored race which keeps track of such events. The decrease was laid to agitation for a federal anti-lynching law and the northward migration of negroes. Mississippi and Florida were reported to lead with five lynchings each. Georgia was listed with four, Oklahoma three and Arkansas, Alabama and Texas two each Louisiana, Missouri and Virginia each had one.

Concord N. C
Tribune
JAN 1 - 1924

DECREASE SHOWN IN LYNCHINGS LAST YEAR

Decrease, Compared With Record of 1922, Was More Than 50 Per Cent.

(By the Associated Press.)

Tuskegee, Ala., Jan. 1.—Lynchings in the United States decreased more than 50 per cent. during 1923, as compared with 1922, according to figures made public by the Tuskegee Normal & Industrial Institute. During 1923 there were 28 lynchings, as compared with 57 for the preceding year, these figures showed. Twenty-six of the number were negroes and two whites. Two women were among the victims of the mobs.

These figures gave Mississippi and Florida eight lynchings each; Georgia four, Arkansas two, Texas two, Virginia one, Missouri one, Oklahoma one, and Louisiana one. one was reported from North Carolina, South Carolina and Alabama, according ti the Tuskegee compilation.

MARSHALL TEX. MESSENGER
JANUARY 1, 1924

FIGURES SHOW LYNCHINGS ON THE DECREASE

BEATS RECORD OF FORMER YEAR FIFTY PER CENT.

Tuskegee Institute Makes Public Statistics On the Lynchings in United States.—Two Women Were Among the Victims.

By the Associated Press.

TUSKEGEE, Ala., Jan. 1.—Lynchings in the United States decreased more than 50 per cent during 1923, as compared with 1922, according to figures made public by the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute. During last year there were 28 lynchings, compared with 57 for the preceding year, the figures showed. 26 of this number were negroes and two were whites. Two women were among the victims of mobs. Two lynchings were reported in Texas.

Augusta, Ga.
JAN 1 - 1924 Herald

Not a Lynching In S. C. During the Year 1923

COLUMBIA, S. C.—The year 1923 was noteworthy in South Carolina because, among other things, the state had a clean record as to lynchings, according to a statement made Monday night at the office of Governor McLeod.

Last year lacked but one day of having a clean record, as the last lynching marked up for South Carolina occurred on January 1, 1922, in Aiken county, it was said.

DAYTON, O. JOURNAL
Com.....
.....
DEC 20 1923

THE LYNCHING RECORD

Americans will note with general satisfaction the sharp decline in the number of lynchings in the United States during the year 1923. While records are not as yet complete, it is indicated that to date only 26 occurred as against 61 in 1922.

Causes for the decrease are believed to lie in the agitation for federal anti-lynching laws and in the northward migration of colored people. This seems to have impressed the south with the necessity for better treatment of its workers if it is to save the best of them, in the opinion of some authorities.

Mississippi and Florida lead the list of lynching states with five each. Georgia is second with four, and Oklahoma third with three. Arkansas, Texas and Alabama have two each. Louisiana, Missouri and Virginia trail the list with one each.

Of the 26 individuals lynched seven were charged with offenses against women. Other offenses included aiding in escape, associating with white women, being in an automobile accident, remaining in a town closed to negroes, and frightening children. Two of the victims of mobs were white men. One colored woman was lynched at Pickens, Miss.

The record is a big improvement over that of the year before, but plenty of room for improvement remains. The country will not be satisfied until every community entrusts to its courts the punishment of offenders against the law after they have had their day in court and conviction has been obtained through due process of the law. Nothing else will do.

EAST PALESTINE, O.
.....
.....
JAN 7 - 1924

WE STILL HAVE SOME LYNCHING

Interesting Figures Compiled Show Some Reduction in Lynching in This Country.

The Tuskegee Institute, in its department of Records and Research, gives public the following facts concerning lynching in 1923.

Number of persons lynched in 1923, 28 against 57 for 1922. Thirteen of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 7 from jails and 6 from officers. There were 46 instances of officers preventing lynchings, among them three white women and one Negro woman. Six of the preventions were in northern states and 40 in southern states. In nine cases, armed forces were necessary to protect against lynching. Of 52 persons tried for complicity in lynching or attempts at lynching, only two were sent to the penitentiary.

Of the 28 persons lynched in 1923, 26 were Negros and two were whites. Two of the former were women. Seven of those lynched, or a fourth of the whole number, were charged with rape: one of the victims was burned to death and another was put to death and the body then burned. The one burned to death was charged with murder.

The offenses charged against the whites were: participation in strike depredations, 1; being taken as a Negro, 1. The offenses charged against the Negroes were: murder, 3; rape, 6; attempting rape, 1; killing officer of

the law, 2; wounding officer of the law, 2; no charge reported, 3; assisting man charged with rape to escape, 1; resisting posse searching for man charged with rape, 1; cattle stealing, 1; "trying to act like white man and not knowing his place," 1; insulting woman, 1; peeping in window, 1; striking man in altercation, 1.

The nine states in which lynchings occured and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 2; Florida, 8; Georgia, 4; Lousiana, 1; Mississippi, 8; Missouri, 1; Oklahoma, 1; Texas, 1; Virginia, 1.

Griffin, Ga. News
JAN 1 - 1924

LYNCHINGS IN U. S. DECREASE OVER 50 PERCENT IN 1922

FIGURES TABULATED BY TUSKEGEE COLORED SCHOOL SHOWS 28 LYNCHINGS DURING PAST YEAR; 4 IN GEORGIA.

TUSKEGEE, Ala., Jan. 1.—(By the Associated Press)—Lynchings in the United States decreased more than fifty per cent during 1923, as compared with 1922, according to figures made public today by the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute.

During 1923 there were twenty-eight lynchings compared with fifty-seven for the preceeding year. Twenty-six were negroes and two whites.

Mississippi and Florida led with eight lynchings each, while Georgia was second with four.

Bryson City, N. C.
JAN 4 - 1924
Times

THE LYNCHING RECORD

Decrease in the lynching record for 1923 is something for which all good citizens may give thanks in the beginning of the new year. Last year only 28 were done to death unlawfully, as compared with 57 in 1922. Whatever the cause, fewer crimes, increased vigilance of the authorities, the gradual strengthening of public opinion against mob violence (let us hope it was not merely the operation of the laws of chance), the figures are encouraging to all believers in the orderly processes of law.

Mississippi and Florida head the list of lynching States for 1923, with eight instances of executions by mobs without process of law. North Carolina's name for the past year is clear of the blot of organized and illegal killing.

Among those lynched were two colored women; two were white men. One negro, charged with murder, was burned to death. Bad enough, is this story; but it is far brighter than the record of past years.—The Asheville Citizen.

BARTLESVILLE, OK., ENTERPRISE
JANUARY 1, 1924

LYNCHING IN BIG DECREASE

Necro Parties in U. S Slumped More Than 50 Per Cent

Tuskegee, Ala., Jan. 1.—Lynchings of the United States decreased more than fifty per cent during 1923 as compared with 1922, according to figures made public by the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute. During 1923 there were 28 lynchings, as compared with 57 for the preceding year, these figures show. Twenty-six of the number were negroes and two were whites. Two women were among the victims of mobs.

These figures gave Mississippi and Florida 8 lynchings each; Georgia four; Arkansas two; Texas two; Virginia one; Missouri one; Oklahoma one; Louisiana one. None was reported from North Carolina, South Carolina and Alabama according to the compilation.

Athens, Ga. Herald
JAN 2 - 1924

LYNCHINGS ON THE DECREASE

It will be noted with interest that the number of lynching in 1923 were only 28 as against that of 57 for 1922. Only four lynchings occurred in Georgia. These statistics are given out by R. R. Moton, of Tuskegee Institute, who has made a study and kept the records of all lynchings for a number of years past. He is a well known negro educator and a man of much ability and reliab ility. He is a native born southern negro and has lived in the south all of his life. He is not possessed with advanced ideas and theories relating to his race, but he has always adhered to the belief that the negro's best friend is the white man of the south. This doctrine he has preached and talked throughout the nation and when he is in Boston or elsewhere he does not mince words as to what he believes to be for the best interest of the negro race.

If the country had more men of his character and ability there would be no argument over the race question. He has contributed much towards bringing about a better understanding between the races and to him in a great measure is due the good feeling and little trouble which is experienced between the two races. He is a deserving man and should receive the support and co-operation of the white people in the great work he has undertaken in directing the future of the negro for his welfare and to teach him to know and understand his sphere in life and how to conduct himself. He has accomplished much and he will do more in the years to come of his usefulness.

The nine states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 2: Florida, 8: Georgia, 4; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi 8; Missouri, 1; Oklahoma, 1; Texas, 2; Virginia, 1.

PUEBLO, COL., CHIEFTAIN
JANUARY 2 1924

1923 HELD DOWN THE PAST LYNCHING RECORD

TUSKEGEE, Ala., Jan. 1—Lynchings in the United States decreased more than 50 per cent during 1923, as compared with 1922, according to figures made public by the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute. During 1923 there were 28 lynchings as compared with 57 for the preceding year, these figures showed Twenty-six of the number were negroes and two were whites. Two women were among the victums of mobs.

These figures gave Mississippi and Florida eight lynchings each; Georgia four; Arkansas two; Texas two; Virginia one; Missouri one; Oklahoma one; Louisiana one.

The Tuskegee report says ther were forty-six instances, during th year, in which officers of the la prevented lynchings.

LOS ANGELES CAL EXAMINER
JANUARY 2, 1924

Lynchings Show Big Decrease in U. S

TUSKEGEE, Ala., Jan. 1.—Lynchings in the United States decreased more than 50 per cent during 1923 as compared with 1922, according to figures made public by the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute. During 1923 there were twenty-eight lynchings as compared with fifty-seven for the preceding year, these figures showed. Twenty-six of the number were negroes and two were whites. Two women were among the victims of mobs.

These figures gave Mississippi and Florida eight lynchings each; Georgia, four; Arkansas, two; Texas, two; Virginia, one; Missouri, one; Oklahoma, one; Louisiana one.

JAN 1 - 1924

Tuskeegee' Report on Lynching.

Some month or six weeks ago The Chronicle took occasion to comment on the report of the Federal Council of Churches regarding the decrease in lynching and now comes the annual report of Tuskeegee Institute, which also presents a gratifying statement relative to lynchings.

Less than half as many lynchings are reported as compared with 1922, only 28 people having lost their lives from this source against 57, or a decrease of 29, and of this year's number only 13 were taken from the hands of the law, 7 from jails and 6 from officers in charge.

Vigilance of the officers presumably prevented 46 lynchings, among them being 4 women, three white and one of them colored. Six of the prevented lynchings were in the North and 40 in the South. Only two white people were included in the number lynched in 1923, the other 26 being negroes. Georgia only had four lynchings, while South Carolina is not credited with having any.

Educational effort to prevent the perpetration of crimes that lead to lynching is one of the greatest preventatives, but there is also a determined campaign everywhere to let the law take ist course and this accounts for many of the features contributing to a decrease in lynching. Fifteen causes are ascribed as the crimes for which lynching, showing a wide range involved which incited mob violence.

Greenville, S. C. Baptist Courier
JAN 17 1924

Principal R. R. Moton of the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute has sent us the record of lynchings for 1923. He writes: "I find that there were twenty-eight persons lynched in 1923. This is twenty-nine less than the number fifty-seven for the year 1922. Thirteen of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, seven from jails and six from officers of the law outside of jails." He also reports that there were forty-six instances in which the officers of the law prevented lynchings. Six of these preventions were in the Northern states and forty in the Southern states. We are glad to note that there was not an instance of lynching in South Carolina in 1923. Florida and Mississippi have each of them eight lynchings to their credit. It is an uncomfortable fact that all of the lynchings in 1923 were in Southern states.

Lynchings—1923
Reports on, Sent Press.

Jan.—Dec.

1491

1494

NEW YORK CITY HERALD
JANUARY 1, 1924

MOTON SAYS LYNCHINGS DROPPED A HALF IN 1923

57 Were Put to Death in 1922 and Only 28 in 1923.

TUSKEGEE, Ala., Dec. 31.—R. R Moton, principal of the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute, has issued his annual statement on lynchings in the United States. He says:

"I find that there were twenty-eight persons lynched in 1923. This is twenty-nine less than the number fifty-siven for the year 1922. Thirteen of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, seven from jails, and six from officers of the law outside of jails.

"There were forty-six instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Four women, three white and one colored, were among those thus saved. Six of these preventions of lynchings were in Northern States and forty in Southern States. In thirty-seven of the cases the prisoners were removed or guards augmented or other precautions taken. In the nine other instances armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. In eight instances during the year persons charged with being connected with lynching mobs were brought to trial. Of the fifty-two persons thus before the courts only two were sent to the penitentiary.

"Of the twenty-eight persons lynched in 1923, twenty-six were negroes and two were whites; two of the former were women. The nine States in which lynchings occured and the number in each State are as follows: Arkansas, two; Florida, eight; Georgia, four; Louisiana, one; Mississippi, eight; Missouri, one; Oklahoma, one; Texas, two; Virginia, one."

Daytona, Fla.
JAN 3 - 1924 Times

ONLY 26 LYNCHINGS IN U. S. THIS YEAR

New York, Dec. 26.—Lynching in the United States during 1923 numbered 26 against 61 in 1922, the National Association of Colored People announced today. The decrease was laid to agitation for a federal anti-lynching law and the northward migration of negroes. Mississippi and Florida were reported to lead with five lynchings each. Georgia was was listed with four, Oklahoma three and Arkansas, Alabama and Texas two each. Louisana, Missouri and Virginia each had one.

VALDOSTA, GA. Times
JAN 1 - 1924

LYNCHING FELL OFF ABOUT HALF

Tuskegee, Ala., Jan. 1.—Lynching in the United States decreased more than fifty per cnt during 1923 as compared with 1922 according to figures made public today by the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial institute.

During 1923 there were 28 lynchings compared with 57 for the preceding year. Twenty-six were negroes and two were whites. Mississippi and Florida led with eight lynchings each and Georgia was second with four.

Burlington, N.C.
JAN 4 - 1924 Times

FEWER LYNCHINGS DURING THE PAST YEAR

Tuskegee, Ala., Jan. 3.—Lynchings in the United States decreased more than 50 per cent during 1923, as compared with 1922, according to figures made public by the Tuskegee Institute today.

During 1923 there were 28 lynchings as compared with 57 for the previous year.

These figures gave Mississippi and Florida eight lynchings each, Georgia 4, Texas 2, Oklahoma 1, Arkansas 1.

None was reported from North Carolina, South Carolina and Alabama, according to the institute.

Waycross, Ga.
JAN 3 - 1924
Herald

LYNCHINGS CUT IN HALF IN PAST YEAR

Tuskeegee, Ala., Jan. 2.—(By Associated Press).—Lynchings in the United States decreased more than 50 percent during 1923 as compared with 1922, according to figures made public today by Tuskeegee Normal and Industrial Institute.

During 1923 there were 28 lynchings, compared with 57 for the preceding year. Twenty-six were negroes and two whites. Mississippi and Florida led with eight lynchings each, and Georgia was second with four.

Concord, N.C.
Times
JAN 3 - 1924

DECREASE IN LYNCHINGS.

Lynchings in the United States decreased more than 50 per cent. in 1923 as compared with 1922, according to figures made public by the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute. Twenty-six of the number were negroes, it is reported, and two white and two of the victims were women.

Mississippi and Florida had the greatest number of lynchings, according to the figures. Each of these States had eight. Georgia had four, Arkansas two, Texas two, Virginia one, Missouri one, Oklahoma one and Louisiana one. No lynchings were reported in North Carolina, South Carolina and Alabama, the report shows.

This report shows a marked increase in respect for law. The lyncher will not survive long if his business shows many such decreases as it showed last year. A cut of more than 50 per cent. will ruin any business.

ATLANTA, GA., Constitution
JAN 2 - 1923

50 PER CENT DECREASE IN YEAR'S LYNCHINGS

Tuskegee, Ala., January 1.—Lynchings in the United States decreased more than 50 per cent during 1923 as compared with 1922 according to figures made public by the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute. During 1923 there were 28 lynchings as compared with 57 for the preceding year, these figures showed. Twenty-six of the number were negroes and two whites. Two women were among the victims of mobs.

These figures gave Mississippi and Florida eight lynchings each, Georgia 4, Arkansas 2, Texas 2, Virginia 1, Missouri 1, Oklahoma 1, Louisiana 1. None was reported from North Carolina, South Carolina and Alabama, according to the Tuskegee compilation.

The Tuskegee report says there were 46 instances during the year in which officers of the law prevented lynchings, 40 of these cases were in southern states and six in northern states.

Thirteen of those lynched last year were taken from the hands of the law, the report states, seven from jails and six from officers outside of jails. Seven of the victims were charged with attack or attempted attack, three with murder, two with murderous assault, two for wounding an officer of the law, and the rest with other offenses.

BALLINGER, TEX., LEDGER
JANUARY 1, 1924

1923 LYNCHINGS CUT IN HALF

(By Associated Press)

TUSKEGEE, Ala., Jan. 1.—Lynchings in the United States decreased more than fifty per cent during 1923 as compared with 1922, according to figures made public today by the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute.

During last year there were twenty-eight lynchings as compared with fifty-seven in 1922 the figures showed. Twenty-six of the persons lynched in 1923 were negroes, and two whites. Two women were among the victims of the mobs. Only two of the lynchings were reported from Texas.

CRIPPLE CREEK, COL., TIMES-RECORD
JANUARY 2, 1924

LYNCHINGS DECREASED MORE THAN 50 PER CENT IN 1923

TUSKEGEE, Ala., Jan 2.—Lynchings in the United States decreased more than 50 per cent during 1923 as compared with 1922, according to figures made public by the Tuskegee normal and industrial institute. During 1923 there were 28 lynchings as compared with 57 for the preceding year, these figures showed. Twenty-six of the number were negroes and two were whites. Two women were among the victims of mobs.

These figures gave Mississippi and Florida eight lynchings each Georgia four; Arkansas two; Texas two; Virginia one; Missouri one; Oklahome one; Louisiana one.

The Tuskegee report says there were 46 instances during the year in which officers of the law prevented lynchings.

Lynchings — 1923.
Reports on Sent Press.

Jan. — June.

1495

LYNCHING SHOWS DECREASE FOR 1ST SIX MONTHS

TUSKEGEE, July 14.—According to the records compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research, Monroe N. Work in charge, in the first six months of 1923 there were 15 lynchings. This is 15 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922 and 21 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

Two Were Whites

Of those lynched, two were whites and thirteen were Negroes. One of the latter was a woman. One of those put to death was charged with the crime of rape. The other offenses charged were: murder, 2; killing officer of law, 2; wounding officer of the law, 2; no charge reported, 2; assisting man charged with rape to escape 1; trying to pass for white, 1; resisting posse searching for man charged with rape, 1; participating in depredations connected with railroad strike, 1; cattle stealing, 1; trying to act like white man and not knowing his place, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida 7; Georgia, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 2; Missouri, 1; and Texas, 1.

Moton's Report Shows Increase In Lynchings

Fifteen Acts of Barbarity During Six Months of 1922, According to Tuskegee Record

Tuskegee Institute, Ala., July 1.—There were fifteen lives snuffed out at the hands of mobs during the first six month of 1923, according to the semi-annual report as issued over the signature of Dr. Robert R. Moton, the head of Tuskegee Institute. The statement of Dr. Moton as just ordered released is as follows:

"I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the first six months of this year. I find according to the records compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the department of records and research, Monroe N. Work in charge, that in the first six months of 1923 there were 15 lynchings. This is 15 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922 and 21 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

"Of those lynched, two were whites and thirteen were negroes. One of the latter was a woman. One of those put to death was charged with the crime of rape. The other offenses charged were: murder, 2; killing officer of the law, 2; wounding officer of the law, 2; no charge reported, 2; assisting man charged with rape to escape, 1; trying to pass for white, 1; resisting posse searching for man charged with rape, 1; participating in depredations connected with railroad strike, 1; cattle stealing, 1; trying to act like white man and not knowing his place, 1.

"The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida 7; Georgia, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 2; Missouri, 1; and Texas, 1.

"Yours very truly,

"R. R. MOTON,

"Principal."

LYNCHINGS FOR FIRST SIX MONTHS 1923

Principal Robert R. Moton, of Tuskegee Institute sends the following information concerning lynchings for the first six months of this year. He finds according to the records compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research, Monroe N. Work in charge, that in the first six months of 1923 there were fifteen lynchings, fifteen less than the number thirty for the first six months of 1922 and 21 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

Of those lynched, two were whites and thirteen were Negroes. One of the latter was a woman. One of those put to death was charged with the crime of rape. The other offenses charged were: murder, 2; killing officer of the law, 2; wounding officer of the law, 2; no charge reported, 2; assisting man charged with rape to escape, 1; trying to pass for white, 1; resisting posse searching for man charged with rape, 1; participating in depredations connected with railroad strike, 1; cattle stealing, 1; trying to act like white man and not knowing his place, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 7; Georgia, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 2; Missouri, 1; Texas, 1.

THE LYNCHING RECORD FOR THE FIRST SIX MONTHS OF 1923.

I find, according to the records compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research, Monroe N. Work in charge, that in the first six months of 1923 there were fifteen lynchings. This is fifteen less than the number (thirty) for the first six months of 1922 and twenty-one less than the number (thirty-six) for the first six months of 1921.

Of those lynched, two were whites and thirteen were negroes. One of the latter was a woman. One of those put to death was charged with the crime of rape. The other offenses charged were: Murder, 2; killing an officer of the law, 2; wounding an officer of the law, 2; no charge reported, 2; assisting man charged with rape to escape, 1; trying to pass for white, 1; resisting posse searching for man charged with rape, 1; participating in depredations connected with railroad strike, 1; cattle stealing, 1; trying to act like white man and not knowing his place, 1.

The States in which lynchings occurred and the number in each State are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 7; Georgia, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 2; Missouri, 1; Texas, 1.

R. R. MOTON, *Principal.*

Sylvester Ga Sentinel
JUL 5 1923

Florida takes the prize from Georgia and Texas in the lynching line for the first half of the year. Only fifteen persons were lynched in the United States during that period. Seven took place in the "Land of Flowers." Georgia had only two and Texas one.

Commerce Ga News
JUL 5 1923

THE LYNCHING RECORD FOR THE FIRST 6 MONTHS OF 1923

Editor News,

Dear Sir:

I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the first six months of this year. I find according to the records compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the department of records and research, Monroe N. Work in charge, that in the first six months of 1923 there were 15 lynchings. This is 15 less than the number for the first six months of 1922 and 21 less than for the first six months in 1921.

Of those lynched, two were whites and 13 were negroes. One of the latter was a woman. One of those put to death was charged with the crime of rape. The other offenses charged were: murder, 2 killing officer of the law, 2; wounding officer of the law, 2; no charge reported, 2; assisting man charged with rape to escape, 1; trying to pass for white, 1; resisting posse searching for man charged with rape, 1; participating in depredations connected with railroad strike, 1 cattle stealing, 1; trying to act like white man and not knowing his place 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 1 Florida, 7, Georgia 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 2; Missouri, 1; Texas, 1.

Yours very truly,

R. R. MOTON.

Is Lynching Decreasing?

According to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research, in charge of Monroe N. Work, in the first months of 1923, there were fifteen lynchings. This is fifteen less than for the same period of 1922, and twenty-one less than for the first half of 1921. The record furnishes the further details of these lynchings as follows:

Of those lynched, two were whites and thirteen were Negroes. One of the latter was a woman. One of those put to death was charged with the crime of rape. The other offenses charged were: murder, 2; killing officer of the law, 2; wounding officer of the law, 2; no charge reported, 2; assisting man charged with rape to escape, 1; trying to pass for white, 1; resisting posse searching for man charged with rape, 1; participating in depredations connected with railroad strike, 1; cattle stealing, 1; trying to act like white man and not knowing his place, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 7; Georgia, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 2; Missouri, 1. and Texas, 1.

This apparent decrease in the manifestations of the mob spirit in the South must not be taken too confidently as a sign of reformation. There are several separate and distinct reasons which may account for the smaller number of victims sacrificed to the lust of the mob for human sacrifices. Not the least of these reasons is the migration of the Negroes by hundreds and thousands from those regions where the mob spirit has been most violent. At the sacrifice of most of their worldly possessions, they have fled from the remote country districts to the comparative safety of the larger cities, and in many cases to the North.

The anti-lynching campaign conducted by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, although it failed of its ultimate objective in the passage of the Dyer bill, achieved a moral victory in riveting national attention, including the South, upon the menace of lynching to our civilization. The work of the Commission on Inter-Racial Cooperation must also be counted as a valuable factor in arousing the best sentiment of the white South in opposition to this evil. The example of the city officials of Savannah and the State au-

thorities of Georgia in successfully resisting a mob bent on lynching a prisoner, is a proof of this awakened sentiment.

The fact that lynching flourishes most in the backwoods of ignorance and moral depravity is shown in the fact that of the fifteen cases reported during the past six months, nearly one half took place in Florida. This state is rightly accounted one of the most backward in the Union, along the lines of education and civilization. And yet the Hon. William Jennings Bryan, in paving his way to political preferment there, had to avow his belief in white domination and the suppression of the Negro vote. If Florida had more schools and moving pictures of the right kind, it might be weaned from its indulgence in barbaric excesses. In redeeming Florida from savagery, Mr. Bryan might find a cause worthy of his powers.

The wanton savagery of lynching is attested by the variety of causes assigned for murder by the mob. In only one case of the fifteen was the stereotyped charge of rape made against the victim. The frivolous charges, trying to pass for white and trying to act like a white man and not knowing his place, were deemed sufficient cause for putting a human being to a cruel and sudden death. Lynching may be decreasing in numbers and in frequency, but it is too soon to assume that the spirit of the mob has been changed. There is need for all the factors engaged in fighting this national menace to redouble their efforts to uproot the evil.

The need for a Federal law against mob violence still exists. The States in many instances have abdicated their rights by failing to protect their citizens in life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.

LYNCHING EVIL REDUCED.

(By The Associated Negro Press)

TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE, July 13—Lynchings have grown a bit less popular. Mistaken as to the evidence of courage in opposing mob rule both on the part of officers and colored people have tended to reduce the total of America's depraved sport.

According to records compiled by Monroe N. Work the first six months of 1923 there were 15 lynchings. This is 15 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922 and 21 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

Of those lynched, two were whites and thirteen were Negroes. One of the latter was a woman. One of those put to death was charged with the crime of rape. The other offenses charged were: murder, 2; killing officer of the law, 2; wounding officer of the law, 2; no charge reported, 2; assisting man charged with rape to escape, 1; trying to pass for white, 1; resisting posse searching for man charged with rape, 1; participating in depredations connected with railroad strike, 1; cattle stealing, 1; trying to act like white man and not knowing his place, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida 7, Georgia 2; Louisiana, 1, Mississippi, 2; Missouri, 1; and Texas, 1.

JUL 5 1923

LYNCHING RECORD FOR FIRST SIX MONTHS, 1923

I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the first six months of this year. I find according to the records compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the department of records and research, Monroe N. Work in charge, that in the first six months of 1923 there were 15 lynchings. This is 15 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922 and 21 less than the number 36 for the first six months in 1921.

Of those lynched, two were whites and thirteen were negroes. One of the latter was a woman. One of those put to death was charged with the crime of rape. The other offenses charged were: murder, 2; killing officer of the law, 2; wounding officer of the law, 2; no charge reported, 2; assisting man charged with rape to escape, 1; trying to pass for white, 1; resisting posse searching for man charged with rape 1; participating in depredations connected with railroad strike, 1; cattle stealing, 1; trying to act like white man and not knowing his place, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida 7; Georgia, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississsippi, 2; Missouri, 1; and Texas, 1.

R. R. MOTON,
Principal, Tuskegee Institute.

Vidalia La advance

JUL 5 - 1923

LYNCHING RECORD FOR 1923.

According to records compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the first six months of 1923 there were 15 lynchings. This is 15 less than the number, thirty, for the first six months of 1922, and 21 less than the number, thirty-six, for the first six months of 1921.

Of those lynched, two were whites and thirteen were negroes. One of the latter was a woman. One of those put to death was charged with the crime of rape. The other offenses were: murder 2, killing officer of the law 2, wounding officer of the law 2, no charge reported 2, assisting man charged with rape to escape 1, trying to pass for white 1, resisting posse searching for man charged with rape 1, participating in depredations connected with railroad strike 1, cattle setaling 1, trying to act like a white man and not knowing his place 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas 1, Florida 7, Georgia 2, Louisiana 1, Mississippi 2, Missouri 1, Texas 1.

Americus Ga Jul 5 1923 Recorder

JUL 5

FLORIDA LEADS IN NUMBER LYNCHINGS

Tuskegee Computation Says Two Were Executed by Mobs in Georgia During Period

TUSKEGEE, Ala., July 3.—R. R. Moton, principal of Tuskegee Institute, today issued his semi-annual statement of the number of lynchings in the South, giving the total as 15, with Florida where 7 lynchings occurred heading the list. The statement says that according to the records compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the department of Records and Research, Monroe N. Work in charge, in the first six months of 1923, there were 15 lynchings. This is 15 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922 and 21 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

Of those lynched, two were whites and thirteen were negroes. One of the latter was a woman. One of those put to death was charged with the crime of rape. The other offenses charged were: murder, 2; killing officer of the law, 2; wounding officer of the law, 2; no charge reported, 2; assisting man charged with rape to escape, 1; trying to pass for white, 1; resisting posse searching for man charged with rape 1; participating in depredations conected with railroad strike, 1; cattle stealing, 1; trying to act like white man and not knowing his place, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 7; Georgia, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 2, Missouri 1; and Texas 1.

LYNCHINGS DECREASE IN FIRST SIX MONTH PERIOD

Tuskegee, Ala.—Special—According to the records on lynchings compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research, Monroe N. Work in charge, in the first six months of 1923 there were 15 lynchings. This is 15 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922 and 21 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

Of those lynched, two were whites and thirteen were Negroes. One of the latter was a woman. One of those put to death was charged with the crime of rape.

The other offenses charged were: murder, 2; killing officer of the law, 2; wounding officer of th elaw, 2; no charge reported, 2; assisting man charged with rape to escape, 1; trying to pass for white, 1; resisting posse searching for man charged with rape, 1; participating in depredations connected with railroad strike, 1; cattle stealing, 1; trying to act as white man and not knowing his place, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 7; Georgia, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 2; Missouri, 1; and Texas, 1.

LYNCHING RECORD FOR FIRST SIX MONTHS, 1923.

Tuskegee Institute, Ala., July 1, 1923.

Editor The Advertiser:

I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the first six months of this year. I find according to the records compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the department of records and research, Monroe N. Work in charge, that in the first six months of 1923 there were 15 lynchings. This is 15 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922 and 21 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

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The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas 1, Florida 7, Georgia 2, Louisiana 1, Mississippi 2, Missouri 1, and Texas 1.

Yours very truly,
R. R. MOTON,
Principal.

Lynchings — 1923
Reports on; Sent Press.

Jan. — June.

1496

Published Fa
Herald
JUL 4 - 1923

THE LYNCHING RECORD THIS YEAR.

According to the semi-annual compilation of lynching figures issued by the Tuskegee Institute only fifteen occurred during the first six months of this year as compared with thirty during the same period for 1922. The reduction has been notable during recent years. The figures for 1921 being thirty-tix for the first six months.

According to the Tuskegee records of those lynched, two were whites and thirteen were negroes. One of the latter was a woman. One of those put to death was charged with the crime of rape. The other offenses charged were: murder, 2; killing officer of the law, 2; wounding officer of the law, 2; no charge reported, 2; assisting man charged with rape to escape, 1; trying to pass for white, 1; resisting posse searching for man charged with rape, 1; participating in depredations connected with railroad strike, 1; cattle stealing, 1; trying to act like white man and not knowing his place, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 7; Georgia, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 2; Missouri, 1; and Texas, 1.

Fayetteville N.C.
Observer
JUL 3 - 1923

LYNCHINGS ON THE DECREASE

There Was No Lynching in North Carolina During First Six Months.

Mobile, Ala., July 1.—In the first six months of 1923, ending June 30, there were 15 lynchings in the United States, according to the records compiled by the Tuskegee, Ala., Normal and Industrial Institute. This is 15 less than the number, 30, for the first six months of 1922, and 21 less than the number, 36, for the first six months of 1921.

Of those lynched, two were whites and 13 were negroes. One of the latter was a woman. One of those put to death was charged with the crime of rape. The other offenses charged were: murder 2; killing officer of the law; wounding officer of the law, 2; no charge reported, 2; assisting man charged with rape trying to escape 1; trying to pass for white 1; resisting posse searching for man charged with rape 1; participating in depredations connected with railroad strike 1; cattle stealing 1; trying to act like white man and not knowing his place 1.

The States in which lynchings occurred and the number in each State are as follows: Arkansas 1, Florida 7, Georgia 2, Louisiana 1, Mississippi 2, Missouri 1, Texas 1.

ELBERTON, GA., Star
JUL 3 - 1923

Lynchings in South Gradually Decreasing

According to the records compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research, Monroe N. Work in charge, in the first six months of 1923 there were 15 lynchings. This is 15 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922 and 21 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

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The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows. Arkansas, 1; Florida, 7; Georgia, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 2; Missouri, 1; and Texas 1.

N Y C MAIL
JULY 3, 1923

LYNCHING TAKES FIFTEEN VICTIMS

Florida Heads List—Practice Still on Decrease.

Lynchings exacted fifteen lives during the first six months of this year, it was shown in figures compiled by the Tuskegee Institute in the department of records and research.

Most of the killings occurred in Florida, where seven persons were lynched. The other States in which people were lynched, with their respective number of lynchings, were Arkansas, 1; Georgia, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 2; Missouri, 1, and Texas, 1.

For the last three years the number of lynchings has been going down. For the corresponding period of 1922 thirty people were lynched in this country. In 1921 thirty-six lynchings happened.

Thirteen of the fifteen people lynched this year were negroes. The remaining two were whites. Among the negroes was a woman.

Many different charges were made by the lynchers against the victims. Some were: Killing an officer of the law, wounding an officer of the law, "not knowing place," resisting posse searching for man charged with attack, participating in depredations connected with railroad strike, cattle stealing and assault.

JERSEY CITY N. J. JOURNAL
JULY 6 1923

LYNCHING RECORD FOR THE FIRST SIX MONTHS OF 1923.

Editor Jersey Journal:

Sir:—I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the first six months of this year. I find according to the records compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research, Monroe N. Work in charge, that in the first six months of 1923 there were 15 lynchings. This is 15 less than the number (30), for the first six months of 1922 and 21 less than the number (36), for the first six months of 1921.

Of those lynched, two were whites and thirteen were negroes. One of the latter was a woman. One of those put to death was charged with the crime of rape. The other offenses charged were: Murder, 2; killing officer of the law, 2; wounding officer of the law, 2; no charge reported, 2; assisting man charged with rape to escape, 1; trying to pass for white, 1; resisting posse searching for man charged with rape, 1; participating in depredations connected with railroad strike, 1; cattle stealing, 1; trying to act like white man and not knowing his place, 1.

The States in which lynchings occurred and the number in each State are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 7; Georgia, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 2; Missouri, 1; and Texas, 1.

Yours very truly,
R. R. Moton, Principal.
Tuskegee Institute,
Alabama, July 2, 1923.

Columbus Ga Enquirer-Sun
JUL 1 1923

FIFTEEN LYNCHINGS SO FAR THIS YEAR

Records Compiled by Tuskegee Institute Show Just Half the Number to Same Date of Last Year.

TUSKEGEE, Ala., June 30.—Lynchings for the first six months of this year totalled fifteen, according to records compiled by Tuskegee Institute. This is fifteen less than the number (30) for the first six months of 1922 and twenty-one less than the number (36) for the first six months of 1921.

Of those lynched, two were whites and thirteen were negroes. One of the latter was a woman. One of those put to death was charged with the crime of rape. The other offenses charged were: Murder, 2; killing officer of the law, 2; wounding officer of the law, 2; no charge reported, 2; assisting man charged with rape eo escape, 1; trying to pass for white, 1; resisting posse searching for man charged with rape, 1; participating in depredations connected with railroad strike, 1; cattle stealing, 1; trying to act like white man and not knowing his place, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 7; Georgia, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 2; Missouri, 1; Texas, 1.

SEYMOUR, I. C.
AUG 25 1923

In the first six months of this year there were 15 lynchings in the United States. The crimes charged included stealing cattle, resisting officers, aiding an accused to escape, killing and wounding officers of the law. At this rate Judge Lynch's jurisdiction may be easily extended to the settlement of disputed boundary lines between property-owners, claims for damages and other matters now heard in civil court procedure. But the prime fact in this report on lynching is that there were 15 less than in the same period of 1922.

NORRISTOWN PA HERALD
JULY 3, 1923

THE LYNCHING RECORD

The lynching record for the first six months of this year has one pleasing fact and that is that it reveals another decrease. The records compiled by the Tuskegee Institute show that in the first six months of this year there were 15 lynchings. This is 15 less than the number for the first six months of 1922 and 21 less than the total for the first six months of 1921. Two of those lynchings were whites and 13 were negroes. One of the latter was a woman. There were seven lynched in Florida, two in Georgia and Mississippi, and one each in Arkansas, Louisiana, Missouri and Texas.

EASTON PA. PRESS
JULY 12, 1923

THE LYNCHING RECORD

According to the records compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research, Monroe N. Work in charge, in the first six months of 1923 there were 15 lynchings. This is 15 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922 and 21 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921. Of those lynched, two were whites and thirteen were Negroes. One of the latter was a woman. One of those put to death was charged with the crime of rape.

The other offenses charged were murder, 2; killing officer of the law, 2; wounding officer of the law, 2; no charge reported, 2; assisting man charged with rape to escape, 1; trying to pass for white, 1; resisting posse searching for man charged with rape, 1; participating in depredations connected with railroad strike, 1; cattle stealing, 1; trying to act like white man and not knowing his place, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 7; Georgia, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 2; Missouri, 1; and Texas, 1.

N Y C WORLD
JULY 4, 1923

Cases of Lynching Decrease.

To the Editor of The World:

I find according to the records compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research, Monroe N. Work in charge, that in the first six months of 1923 there were 15 lynchings. This is 15 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922 and 21 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

Of those lynched two were whites and thirteen were Negroes. One of the latter was a woman. One of those put to death was charged with the crime of rape. The other offenses charged were: Murder, 2; killing officer of the law, 2; wounding officer of the law, 2; no charge reported, 2; assisting man charged with rape to escape, 1; trying to pass for white, 1; resisting posse searching for man charged with rape, 1; participating in depredations connected with railroad strike, 1; cattle stealing, 1; trying to act like white man and not knowing his place, 1.

The States in which lynchings occurred and the number in each State are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 7; Georgia, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 2; Missouri, 1, and Texas, 1.

R. R. MOTON,
Principal Tuskegee Institute.
Tuskegee, Ala., July 1.

DETAILED ACCT. OF LYNCHINGS IN SIX MONTHS

St. Louis Argus

Figures Gathered And Compiled By L. C. Dyer, Father Of Anti-Lynching Bill

St. Louis Mo.

VICTIM IN ONLY ONE CASE CHARGED WITH ASSAULT

7-27-23

Missouri Alone Charges Attempt Against Woman. This Man Has Since Been Declared Innocent.

Congressman L. C. Dyer of this city who has made a study of lynching in this country, has investigated and collected some important facts regarding the cause of the fifteen lynchings which occured in the United States during the first six months of this year.

Figures are given showing the month and the place, together with the alleged cause.

Only one case appears where the victim was charged with assault upon women, that being the case of James T. Scott, who was hung by a mob for an alleged attempt assaut upon a 16-year old girl. Investigation after-the-fact has proven Scott to be entirely innocent of the crime for which he was lynched. "This is but a fair sample of all the lynchings that have taken place in the United States for the past thiry-five years," says Mr. Dyer.

Record of Lynchings

January

Rosewood, Florida:—Samuel Carter, colored; charge, assisting a Negro to escape. Shot to death.

Lawrence County, Mississippi—Benjamin Webster, colored; charge, killing a road contractor. Taken from a deputy sheriff who was bringing the prisoner from Jackson where he had been held for safe-keeping. Hanged.

Shreveport, Caddo Parish, Louisiana:—Leslie Legget, Spaniard; charge that he was a Negro trying to associate with white women. His employer, a white grocer, with whom he roomed, said he was a Spaniard. He was shot to death.

Rosewood, Florida:—Lesty Gordon, colored woman. No charge. In the general burning of dwellings of Negroes in connection with the attack on the colored settlement by whites she was shot to death as she was leaving her burning dwelling.

————, Florida:—Mingo Williams, colored. No charge reported. Killed in a general hunt for Jesse Hunter, charged with rape Shot to death.

Rosewood, Florida:—James Carrier, colored; charge, resisting posse searching for Hunter. Shot to death.

Harrison, Boone County, Arkansas—E. C. Gregor, white; charge being a Railroad striker and resisting a committee investigating the burning of railroad bridges. Hanged.

Newberry, Alachua County, Florida:—Abraham Wilson, colored; charge cattle stealing. Had been convicted and sentenced to a fine of $300 or a jail sentence of six months. Taken from jail during the absence of the deputy sheriff on guard and hanged.

February

Bishop, Nueces County, Texas:—J. G. Smith, colored physician; charge: "Trying to act like a white man and not knowing his place" Had been arrested and placed in jail for reckless driving. Was taken from jail and killed and body partly burned.

Hancock County, Georgia:—George Butts, colored; charge wounding an officer of the law. Shot to death.

Hancock County, Georgia:—Unnamed man, colored; charge, wounding an officer of the law. Shot to death

April

Columbia, Boone County, Missouri:—James Scott, colored; charge attempted rape. Mob burned iron door of jail with actylene torch took prisoner and hanged from a bridge.

June

Palm Beach, Palm Beach County, Florida:—Henry Simmons, colored; charge suspected of having shot and killed policeman. Appears that no attempt was made to arrest him. Hanged and body riddled with bullets.

Ashland, Benton County, Mississippi:—Unnamed man, colored; charge; that in February 1923, he had stabbed a white man named Byrd to death who had charged the colored man with having stolen some property from Byrd. The two men worked for the same road construction gang. The white man is reported to have attempted to search the Negro and was stabbed so severely that he later died. The colored man was later arrested and placed in jail. Mob took prisoner out of town, hanged him and riddled body with bullets. 7-27-23

Homestead, Dade County, Florida;—Simmons, colored; charge, shooting and killing marshal of town in a liquor raid. Did not come into the hands of the law. Bound to tree and shot to death.

POUGHKEEPSIE (N Y) EAGLE
JULY 7, 1923

LYNCHINGS ON DECREASE

The south should feel proud, and the whole country gratified, at the remarkable decrease in lynchings reported for the first six months of 1923. Figures just issued by the Department of Records and Research at Tuskegee Institute show that only fifteen mob victims were reported during that period, as compared with 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 36 for the first six months of 1921. Texas, which has generally led in cases of this sort of lawlessness, made a marked improvement, contributing only one to the total number of lynchings, while Florida, already under a cloud for the disclosures which followed the fatal beating of Martin Tabert in one of her convict prison camps, led with seven. Georgia and Mississippi, however, were the only other states to report more than one lynching, and they had only two apiece.

If the inference may fairly be drawn from these figures that the day of the lynch law is passing, the country has cause of great satisfaction. The taking of life without due process of law, often of the lives of persons who are really innocent of wrong doing, has been too long a blot on American civilization, a reflection on our respect for government and individual rights, and a just cause for reproach and condemnation from other nations. It is to be hoped the present decrease in the number of lynchings is not a mere sporadic improvement, but the sign of the coming of a new era. For its own good name and that of the country, the south cannot afford to lapse back into the evils which have existed in the past.

Lynching on Decrease

According to the records compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the first six months of 1923 there were 15 lynchings. This is fifteen less than for the first six months of 1922 and 21 less than for the first six months of 1921.

Of those lynched, two were whites and thirteen were negroes One of the latter was a woman. One of those put to death was charged with the crime of rape. The other offenses charged were: murder, 2; killing officer of the law 2; wounding officer of the law; 2, no charge reported 2, assisting man charged with rape to escape, 1 trying to pass for white, 1; resisting posse searching for man charged with rape, 1 participating in depredations connected with railway strike, cattle stealing, 1 trying to act like white man and not knowing his place, 1.

Mob Outrages In South Are Decreasing

Steady Migratory Movement Held Largely Responsible — 15 Persons Lynched in First Six Months of Year.

TUSKEGEE, Ala., July 12.—The steady migratory movement and the rising tide of sentiment against lynching is magnified in the latest report concerning lynchings throughout the country, issued here by Monroe N. Work, director of the Department of Records and Research Work.

According to Dr. Work, a survey of "mob killings" during the first six months of 1923 show that there have been 15 lynchings, just half the number of outrages committed by mobs during the first six months of 1922, and 21 less than the number of 36 for the first six months of 1921.

Of those lynched, two were whites and thirteen were Negroes. One of the later was a woman. One of those put to death was charged with the crime of rape. The other offenses charged were: Murder, 2; killing officer of the law, 2; wounding officer of the law, 2; no charge reported, 2; assisting man charged with rape to escape, 1; trying to pass for white, 1; resisting posse searching for man charged with rape, 1; participating in depredations connected with railroad strike, 1; cattle stealing, 1; trying to act like white man and not knowing his place, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 7; Georgia, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 2; Missouri 1, and Texas, 1.

Lynchings—1923.
Reports of, Sent Press. 1497

Jan.—June.

The Inconsistency of Mobs—Mobs Seem to Lack Power of Discrimination—They Do Not Know the Fundamentals of Justice, Nor Practice Fair Play—Mobs Inflict the Death Penalty Without Scruple on Relatively Trivial Offenders—Florida the Banner State of Mobocracy in Spite of Its Flowers and Its Fountains and Its Palms and Its Fashionable Bathing Beaches—The Boisterous Prayers of the Holy Bryan Have Neither Civilized Nor Christianized Florida—Lynched One Poor Nigger For Trying to Act Like a White Man—Report is Silent Whether He Tried to Act Like a Decent White Man or Like an ex-Rebel—Old Ponce de Leon Would See the Shame, as Well as the Glory, of America if He Came Back.

During the last six months fifteen lynching bees were pulled off in the United States.

This is fifteen less than the number thirty for the first six months of 1922, and twenty-one less than the number thirty-six for the first six months of 1921.

We are indebted for this information to Monroe N. Work, in charge of the Department of Records and Research of Tuskegee Institute of Tuskegee, Alabama, a normal and industrial educational institution, founded by the late lamented Booker T. Washington for the benefit of colored young men and women; R. R. Moton, principal.

Professor Moton has made it a policy to keep track of the lynchings in the United States in detail, and to avail himself of the courtesy of the Public Press, to convey this valuable information to the country and to the world.

Professor Moton makes no comment on these social phenomena and violations of the law, and leaves us to make our own deductions and form our own conclusions.

We wonder if the diminished number of lynchings are due to increased respect for law and greater confidence in the courts, or to a letting up and diminution in crime.

Professor Moton says in his letter to us that of those lynched, two were whites and thirteen were negroes.

One of the latter was a woman.

One of those put to death by the different mobs was charged with the crime of rape.

The other offenses in which the mob assumed and exercised jurisdiction and constituted itself judge, jury and executioner, were: murder, two; killing officer of the law, two; wounding officer of the law, two; no charge reported, two; assisting man charged with rape to escape, one; trying to pass for white, one; resisting posse searching for man charged with rape, one; participating in depredations connected with railroad strike, one; cattle stealing, one; trying to act like a white man and not knowing his place, one.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 7; Georgia, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 2; Missouri, 1, and Texas, 1.

The flowery state of Florida, which is rapidly developing into the play-ground of the idle rich of America, leads in lynching, if it doesn't lead in anything else, by furnishing nearly fifty per cent of the total aggregate of the mob murders in the United States.

Ponce de Leon discovered Florida during the Sixteenth Century and explored the peninsula, when it was peopled by naked savages, in quest of the fountain of youth.

It was then a part and parcel of the barbarism of earth and the people who lived there were unbelieving and unconverted heathens.

If Ponce de Leon had explored Florida in the Year of our Lord 1923, when it is a sovereign state of the United States of America, with our Flag enriching its sky, christianized and civilized, he might have had a chance to witness one of these lynching bees, at which the life of a man was taken, or mayhap of a woman for "trying to act like a white man and not knowing his place," or for "cattle stealing," or for "trying to pass for white," or for "assisting a man charged with rape" to escape from the fury of the mob to be murdered without trial, or for nothing at all, for that matter.

Florida is the state in which the enlightened and progressive Legislature recently adopted resolutions condemning the discoveries of an English scientist by the name of Charles Darwin, who wrote quite a number of books in which he disclosed certain facts in nature which he found, and incorporated conclusions which he thought were true.

Florida is also the state where Billy Bryan now lives and votes and teaches a Sunday School Class and writes prohibition articles for the newspapers and temperance lectures which he delivers broadcast to Chautauqua crowds all over the country.

He also prays considerably and usually with a loud and sonorous voice and where he can be heard and seen of men.

Florida is also the state where up to quite recently they still hired convicts out for work to contractors, permitting them to use corporal punishment on the unfortunates to make them work, and allowing one man to be flogged to death within the present year, creating a national scandal.

They don't know whether the man who was lynched for rape really ever committed the crime, for he had no trial, and no jury passed upon the law and the evidence, and no judge sentenced him.

The two who were lynched for killing officers of the law, and the two that were lynched for wounding officers of the law, were given no chance to show whether they acted in self-defense or not, or whether maybe they weren't crazy.

None were lynched for trying to act like black men and not knowing their places, although the whites make a practice of doing that at minstrel shows and on the vaudeville stage, or when they pull off a robbery or a burglary or a rape; but one was lynched for "trying to act like a white man and not knowing his place."

Neither were any lynched for running sweat shops, although they do that all over the South, forcing hundreds and thousands of young girls into lives of immorality and prostitution, through the meagre wages which they pay them, insufficient to provide roof, clothing and food to keep the unfortunate victims alive, without a chance to pickup something on the side.

There is nothing in the report to show that any moonshiners or bootleggers were lynched for selling poison, although their product destroyed the lives of thousands of men and boys and also girls, made some of them blind, wrecked many homes, and made more of them unhappy.

It seems that mobs are not required to deal out justice with an even hand, or to give the accused, white or black, male or female, a square deal.

SCHENECTADY N. Y. STAR
JULY 3 1923

In first half of 1923, U. S. had 15 lynchings, Tuskegee Institute reports

Mobile, Ala., Register
JUL 4 - 1923

Lynchings for the first six months of this year are off fifty per cent. as compared with the same time last year. Florida leads Georgia this time, seven to two. Alabama, Tennessee, Kentucky, Virginia and the Carolinas had no lynchings in the half-year. The great state of Texas had but one case.

Putnam Ga. Free
JUL 13 1923

Lynching Record Shows Decrease

The following information concerning lynchings for the first six months of this year is compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research, Monroe N. Work in charge. In the first six months of 1923 there were 15 lynchings. This is 15 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922 and 21 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

Of those lynched, two were whites and thirteen were Negroes. One of the latter was a woman. One of those put to death was charged with the crime of rape. The other offenses charged were: murder, 2; killing officer of the law 2; wounding officer of the law 2; no charge reported, 2; assisting man charged with rape to escape, 1; trying to pass for white, 1; resisting posse searching for man charged with rape, 1; participating in depredations connected with rail road strike, 1; cattle stealing, 1; trying to act like white man and not knowing his place, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida 7; Georgia, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi. 2: Missouri. 1: and Texas 1.

SCHENECTADY N. Y. STAR
JULY 3, 1923

In first half of 1923, U. S. had 15 lynchings, Tuskegee Institute reports

TOO FAST TO COUNT?

Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute in Alabama has been recording lynching statistics since 1885—four years after the school was opened—through a long period when there was no such widespread agitation against the atrocious custom as has arisen since President Wilson issued his great denunciation of it 30 July, 1918. In latter years none save sundry Democratic politicians in Congress and in a few Southern legislatures have attempted to ques-

tion the statistics which Tuskegee publishes semi-annually, from its Records and Research Department under Monroe N. Work.

On July 1, this authority reported that in the six months just ended there were 15 lynchings; exactly a 50 per cent better showing than for the corresponding period last year. A few days before, the negroes' National association in New York had published a statement accounting for 11 lynchings in the past six months—or a 66 2-3 per cent improvement (thus compared), which is ascribed to the agitation for a Federal anti-lynching law and to the Southern business interests' need for checking the negroes' exodus to Eastern and Northern industrial centers.

The difference, it appears, is that Tuskegee charges Florida with seven, and the New York headquarters with only three, mob-murders since January 1. Alabama and Florida are next-door neighbors, and the distance between Florida and New York lends not enchantment, but uncertainty, to the latter's view. Florida mobsmen's reaction to the 1922-23 developments — legislatively, economically and in public opinion—against lynching is anything but that to which the latest, decreased semi-annual statistics are ascribed in the East. They have committed their murders in such quick succession that observers on the Middle Atlantic seaboard have lost count. Perhaps the fact that Texas citizens lynched 12 negroes between January 1 and June 30, 1922, and only one negro thus far this year, has amazed the New Yorkers so poignantly as to distract their attention from the other lynching States.

Chatsworth Ga
Times
JUL 19 1923

TUSKEGEE SCHOOL REPORTS DECREASE IN LYNCHINGS

According to the records of the Department of Records and Research o Tuskegee Institute, the negro schoo located at Tuskegee, Ala., there were 15 lynchings during the first six months of 1923, as compared with 30 for the first six months of 1922 and 36 for the first six months of 1921.

Of those lynched, says the report, two were whites and thirteen were negroes. One of the latter was a woman. One of those put to death was charged with the crime of rape. The other offenses charged were: murder, 2; killing officer of the law, 2; wounding officer of the law, 2; no charge reported, 2; assisting man charged with rape to escape, 1; trying to pass for white, 1; resisting possee searching for man charged with rape, 1; participating in depredations connected with railroad strike, 1; cattle stealing, 1; trying to act like white man and not knowing his place. 1.

Morganton N C
News-Herald
JUL 19 1923

NO LYNCHINGS IN NORTH CAROLINA FIRST 6 MONTHS

In the first six months of 1923, ending June 30, there were 15 lynchings in the United States, according to the records compiled by the Tuskegee, Ala., Normal and Industrial Institute. This is 15 less than the number, 30, for the first six months of 1922, and 21 less than the number 36, for the first six months of 1921.

Of those lynched, two were whites and 13 were negroes. One of those latter was a woman. One of those put to death was charged with the crime of rape. The other offenses charged were: Murder 2; killing officers of the law 2; wounding officer of the law 2; no charge reported 2; assisting man charged with rape to escape 1; trying to pass for white 1; resisting posse searching for man charged with rape 1; participating in depredations connected with railroad strike 1; cattle stealing 1; trying to act like white man and not knowing his place 1.

The States in which lynchings occurred and the number in each State are as follows: Arkansas 1, Florida 7, Georgia 2, Louisiana 1, Mississippi 2, Missouri 1, Texas 1.

THE LYNCHING RECORD FOR THE FIRST SIX MONTHS, 1923

The Negro Guide
8/4/23

Dear Sir:

I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the first six months of this year. I find according to the records compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research, Monroe N. Work in charge, that in the first six months of 1923 there were 15 lynchings. This is 15 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922 and 21 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

Of these lynched, 2 were whites and 13 were Negroes. One of the latter was a woman. One of those put to death was charged with the crime of rape. The other offenses charged were: Murder, 2; killing officer of the law 2; wounding officer of the law, 2; no charge reported 2; assisting man charged with rape to escape 1; trying to pass for white 1; resisting posse searching for man charged with rape 1; participating in depredations connected with railroad strike 1; cattle stealing 1; trying to act like white man and not knowing his place 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas 1; Florida 7; Georgia 2; Louisiana 1; Mississippi 2; Missouri 1; Texas 1.

Yours very truly,
R. R. MOTON, Principal.

Tuskegee Institute

Tuscaloosa Ala
News
JUL 19 1923

Lynchings Decrease

Mobile, Ala., July 10.—In the first six months of 1923, ending June 30, there were fifteen lynchings in the United States, according to the records compiled by the Tuskegee, Ala., Normal and Industrial Institute. This is fifteen less than the number thirty, for the first six months of 1922 and 21 less than the number, 36, for the first six months of 1921.

Of those lynched, two were whites and thirteen negroes. One of the latter was a woman. One of those put to death was charged with the crime of rape. The other offenses charged were, murder 3; killing officer of the law 2; wounding officer of the law 2; no charge reported 2; assisting man charged with rape to escape 1; trying to pass for white 1; resisting posse searching for man charged with rape 1; participating in depredations connected with railroad strike 1; cattle stealing 1; trying to act like white man and not knowing his place 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows:

Arkansas 1; Florida 7; Georgia 2; Louisiana 1; Mississippi 2; Missouri 1; Texas 1.

Anderson S C
Tribune
JUL 6 - 1923

15 LYNCHINGS DURING FIRST HALF OF YEAR

MOBILE, Ala., July 4.—In the first six months of 1923, ending June 30, there were fifteen lynchings in the United States, according to the records compiled by the Tuskegee, Ala., Normal and Industrial Institute. This is fifteen less than the number thirty, for the first six months of 1922 and 21 less than the number 36, for the first six months of 1921.

Of those lynched, two were whites, and thirteen negroes. One of the latter was a woman. One of those put to death was charged with the crime of rape. The other offenses charged were, murder 3; killing officer of the law 2; wounding officer of the law 2; charge reported 2; assisting man charged with rape to escape 1; trying to pass for white 1; resisting posse searching for man charged with rape 1; participating in depredations connected with railroad strike 1; cattle stealing 1; trying to act like white man and not knowing his place 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows:

Arkansas 1; Florida 7; Georgia 2; Louisiana 1; Mississippi 2; Missouri 1; Texas 1.

COLUMBIA, S. C.
Christian Advocate
JUL 19 1923

THE LYNCHING RECORD FOR THE FIRST SIX MONTHS OF 1923

I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the first six months of this year. I find according to the records compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research, Monroe N. Work in charge, that in the first six months of 1923 there were 15 lynchings. This is 15 less than the number 30, for the first six months of 1922 and 21 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

Of those lynched, two were whites and thirteen were negroes. One of the latter was a woman. One of those put to death was charged with the crime of rape. The other offenses charged were: murder, 2; killing officer of the law, 2; wounding officer of the law, 2; no charge reported, 2; assisting man charged with rape to escape, 1; trying to pass for white 1; resisting posse searching for man charged with rape, 1; participating in depredations connected with railroad strike, 1; cattle stealing, 1; trying to act like white man and not knowing his place, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida 7; Georgia, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 2; Missouri, 1; and Texas, 1.

R. R. Moton, Principal.

Tuskegee Institute

A HOME JOB FOR BRYAN

(From the Chicago Tribune.)

Florida had seven lynchings in the first six months of 1923 out of a total of 15 in seven Southern states, according to a report of the department of records and research in the Tuskegee Institute William J. Bryan is a citizen, and more or less a resident of Florida. There is his opportunity—home missions, foreign missions Scriptural orthodoxy, anti-Darwinism, human service and self-sacrifice all in one—awaiting attention at his door.

Lynchings—1923. Jan.—June.

1498

CHATTANOOGA, TENN., News.

JUL 4-1923

MOB RECORD FOR FIRST HALF 1923

Decline in Mob Violence Shown by Statistics Compiled.

Tuskegee, Ala., July 4.—(Special.)—Dr. R. R. Moton, principal of Tuskegee institute, has issued the following statement of lynchings in the United States for the first six months of 1923. The statistics show a marked decline in lynchings in recent years, and it is noteworthy that no lynching was charged to Tennessee for the period covered. The Moton statement follows:

"I find, according to the records compiled by Tuskegee institute in the department of records and research, Monroe N. Work in charge, that in the first six months of 1923 there were 15 lynchings. This is 15 less than the number, 30, for the first six months of 1922 and 21 less than the number, 36, for the first six months of 1921.

"Of those lynched, 2 were whites and 13 were negroes. One of the latter was a woman. One of those put to death was charged with the crime of rape. The other offenses charged were: Murder, 2; killing officer of the law, 2; wounding officer of the law, 2; no charge reported, 2; assisting man charged with rape to escape, 1; trying to pass for white, 1; resisting posse searching for man charged with rape, 1; participating in depredations connected with railroad strike, 1; cattle stealing, 1; trying to act like white man and not knowing his place, 1.

"The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 7; Georgia, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 2; Missouri, 1, and Texas, 1."

LYNCHING ON DECLINE.

According to the figures of the Tuskegee Bureau of Records and Research, Mr. Monroe N. Work in charge, announced by Prinpal R. R. Moton, the first six months of 1922 there were 30 lynchings. For the same period, 1923 there were 15. In the same period, 1921 there were 36 lynchings, 21 more than the record of 1923. Of those lynched, there were 2 whites and 13 Negroes: of the latter one was a woman. Of those put to death, one was charged with rape, 2 with killing an officer of the law, and one was lynched with no charge reported. The others were put to death for such petty charges as trying to pass for white, cattle stealing and trying to act like a white man and not knowing his place.

The record places 1 to Arkansas, 7 to Florida, 2 to Georgia, 1 to Louisiana, 2 to Mississippi, 1 to Missouri and 1 to Texas.

As grating as it is upon the loyalty of citizens of color and the Christianity of the nation, to read the causes of this outrage of the law, yet to those who have followed the history of lynching, there is cause for encouragement.

Burlington N. C. Times

JUL 3-1923

LYNCHINGS 15 LESS THIS YEAR THAN THE LAST

Mobile, Ala., July 2.—In the first six months of 1923, ending June 30, there were 15 lynchings in the United States, according to the records compiled by the Tuskegee normal an industrial institute. This is 15 less than the number (30), for the first six months of 1922, and 21 less than the number (36) for the first six months of 1921.

Of those lynched, two were white and 13 negroes. One of the latter was a woman. One of these put to death was charged with the crime of rape. The other offenses charged were: Murder 2, killing officer of the law, 2; wounding officer of the law, 2; no charge reported 2; assisting man charged with rape to escape 1; trying to pass for white 1; resisting posse searching for man charged with rape 1; participating in depredations connected with railroad strike 1; cattle stealing 1; trying to act like white man and not knowing his place 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows:

Arkansas 1; Florida 7; Georgia 2; Mississippi 2; Missouri 1; Texas 1.

SAVANNAH, GA., Press.

JUL 2-1923

CHECKING UP CRIME.

SOMEBODY in the Tuskegee Institute, which is the college founded by the late Booker Washington, has made it his business to keep tally on the lynchings in the South. This work is being carried on, but we do not know that it is checked up and we have no way proving or disproving the accuracy of the count.

Tuskegee reports that in the first six months of 1923 there were fifteen lynchings. This is fifteen less than the number thirty for the first six months of 1922 and twenty-one less than the number thirty-six for the first six months of 1921. Of those lynched, two were whites and thirteen were negroes. One of the latter was a woman. One of those put to death was charged with the crime of rape.

In his message to the Legislature last Saturday, Governor Walker alluded to the sensational statements paraded by the non-resident press about criminal happenings in Georgia. Perhaps this is the source of Tuskegee's information. In this respect, said the Governor, "we have not had a square deal." The yellow journals have learned to make their stories unduly sensational in order to secure publication.

The Governor said:

It is true that there have been outbreaks of violence and other discreditable disorders within the limits of the State. If outside newspapers would be fair to Georgia, let them tell the world that these outbreaks have always received the condemnation of our best citizens and the unmeasured denunciation of our press; let them remind the world that such disorder is not incident to Georgia alone—there was such in the days of the Savior—Chicago, St. Louis, New York, Springfield, Ill., the home of Abraham Lincoln, have heard the howl of the mob and will hear it again until the passions of men are curbed and the peace of the Master tempers their souls.

Let them parallel the reports of violence in the South with the story of the unspeakable crime which provoked the violence; let them dwell upon the peculiar conditions in the South, the isolation of the Southern farm, leaving the women defenseless from the vagrant vagabond while their husbands toil for a living in the distant fields.

The Governor plead for a fraternal and constructive spirit; "let them join the patriotic statesmen of the South in seeking the underlying cause of crime which promotes mob violence. The need of the hour is less display of our deficiency; less flaunting of our civic imperfections."

Greenville, S. C., News

JUL 5-1923

LYNCHINGS GROW LESS.

The number of lynchings are growing less each year, if figures of the Tuskegee institute may be relied upon. According to record compiled by that institution, there were fifteen lynchings in the United States during the first six months of 1923, as compared with thirty during the first six months of 1922 and thirty-six for the like period of 1921. Florida leads the lists of states which seven lynchings, followed by Georgia and Mississippi with two each, and Arkansas, Louisiana, Missouri and Texas are charged with one each. South Carolina was credited with only one lynching last year and so far has kept its record clean this year.

The figures are interesting, but their value is uncertain on account of the definition given to lynching by Tuskegee. What many people would consider as a lynching may not be so construed by the Alabama institution. The methods of lynching, like everything else, are changing. While the old method of hanging the victim to a tree may still be practiced in isolated instances, it appears to be too old-fashioned or too slow and has given way in large measure to methods which take less time. But no matter how the punishment is inflicted, if it is done without the form of law it is lynching.

The Tuskegee report says thirteen of the lynched were negroes and two were white. Only one of the victims was charged with rape, one assisted a man charged with rape to escape, and one resisted a posse searching for man charged with that crime. Other offenses charged to the lynch victims were: Murder, 2; killing ing officer of the law, 2; wounding officer of the law, 2, no charge reported, 2, trying to pass for a white man, 1, participating in depredations connected with railroad strike, 1, cattle stealing, 1, trying to act like a white man and not knowing his place, 1.

It must be admitted that it is not a very good record for a civilized country, but compared with former years it may be considered as an encouraging sign.

N. Y. C. TRIBUNE

JULY 3, 1923

Lynchings Drop 50 P. C.

13 Negroes and 2 Whites Killed in First Half of Year

TUSKEGEE, Ala., July 2.—Lynchings decreased fifty per cent in the first six months of 1923 from the number in the corresponding period in 1922, according to the department of records at Tuskegee Institute, it was announced today by R. R. Moton, principal. The lynched so far this year included two whites and thirteen negroes. There were thirty-six lynchings in the first half of 1921.

The lynchings took place in Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri and Texas.

LOUISVILLE COURIER-JOURNAL
JULY 6 1923

DECREASE OF LYNCHING

Though relatively encouraging, the record of lynchings for the first six months of 1923 is still actually appalling, fifteen American citizens having been put to death by mobs in this country from January 1 till July 1.

As Professor Moton, principal of the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute, points out in his letter printed in The Courier-Journal today, this record for lynchings within the last six months shows a marked decrease of the 1922 record and an even more marked decrease of the 1921 record. When the number of lynchings falls from thirty-six for the first six months of 1921 to thirty for the same period of 1922, and to fifteen for the first six months of this year, it is evident that progress is being made in stamping out this peculiarly American crime.

Credit for this improvement may in no small measure be ascribed to the work being done by the Association for the Improvement of Inter-racial Conditions in the United States. In this work white women of the South have made their influence felt. Co-operating with these white women have been men of almost every community south of the Ohio and Potomac. In Georgia especially the crime of lynching is being rooted out. Texas shows an impressive improvement. Florida, where law has been disregarded in more ways than one, leads in lynchings.

Rockford, Ill. Register-Republic
JUL 3 1923

NO LYNCHING IN SOUTH CAROLINA DURING THE YEAR

Statistics Gathered by Tuskegee Institute Show Only Fifteen in Country, Half Number Last Year.

South Carolina was free of lynching bees during the first half of 1923, and the number throughout the country was reduced by half from the number of last year, according to records compiled by Tuskegee Institute.

R. R. Moton, principal of the institute, has sent out the following summary of research work in this particular field of activity:

I find according to the records compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research, Monroe N. Work in charge, that in the first six months of 1923 there were 15 lynching. This is 15 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921 and 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1921.

Of those lynched, two were whites and thirteen were Negroes. One of the latter was a woman. One of those put to death was charged with the crime of rape. The other offenses charged were: murder, 2; killing officer of the law, 2; wounding officer of the law, 2; no charge reported, 2; assisting man charged with rape to escape, 1; trying to pass for white, 1; resisting posse searching for man charged with rape, 1; participating in depredations connected with railroad strike, 1; cattle stealing, 1; trying to act like white man and not knowing his place, 1.

The states in which lynching occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 7; Georgia, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi 2; Missouri, 1; and Texas, 1.

N Y C MAIL
JULY 6, 1923

THE LYNCHING RECORD

Editor Evening Mail—I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the first six months of this year. I find according to the records compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the department of records and research, Monroe N. Work in charge, that in the first six months of 1923 there were fifteen lynchings. This is fifteen less than the number, thirty, for the first six months of 1922 and twenty-one less than the number, thirty-six, for the first six months of 1921.

Of those lynched, two were whites and thirteen were negroes. One of the latter was a woman. One of those put to death was charged with the crime of rape. The other offenses charged were: Murder, 2; killing officer of the law, 2; wounding officer of the law, 2; no charge reported, 2; assisting man charged with rape to escape, 1; trying to pass for white, 1; resisting posse searching for man charged with rape, 1; participating in depredations connected with railroad strike, 1; cattle stealing, 1; trying to act like white man and not knowing his place, 1.

The States in which lynchings occurred and the number in each State are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 7; Georgia, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 2; Missouri, 1; Texas, 1.

R. R. MOTON.

Greenville, S. C. Piedmont
JUL 3 1923

Large Decrease in Lynchings in First Six Months of Year

There has been a big decrease in lynching for the first six months of the year, according to a statement issued by R. R. Moton, principal of Tuskegee Institute, which follows:

"I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the first six months of this year. I find according to the records compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research, Monroe N. Work in charge, that in the first six months of 1923 there were 15 lynchings. This is 15 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922 and 21 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

"Of those lynched, two were whites and thirteen were negroes. One of the latter was a woman. One of those put to death was charged with the crime of rape. The other offenses charged were: murder, 2; killing officer of the law, 2; wounding officer of the law, 2; no charge reported, 2; assisting man charged with rape to escape, 1; trying to pass for white, 1; resisting posse searching for man charged with rape, 1; participating in depredations connected with railroad strike 1; cattle stealing 1; trying to act like white man and not knowing his place, 1.

"The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 7; Georgia, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 2; Missouri, 1; and Texas, 1.

Durham N. C. Herald
JUL 4 1923

LYNCHINGS SMALL FOR SIX MONTHS

Only Fifteen Were Hanged Unlawfully According to Records of College

(By the Associated Press.)

Mobile, Ala., July 1.—In the first six months of 1923, ending June 30, there were 15 lynchings in the United States, according to records compiled by the Tuskegee, Ala., Normal and Industrial Institute. This is 15 less than the number 30, for the first six months of 1922 and 21 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

Of those lynched, two were whites and 13 were negroes. One of the latter was a woman. One of those put to death was charged with the crime of rape. The other offenses charged were, murder 2; killing officer of the law 2; wounding officer of the law 2; no charge reported 2; assisting man charged with rape to escape 1; trying to pass for white 1; resisting posse searching for man charged with rape 1; participating in depredations connected with railroad strike 1; cattle stealing 1; trying to act like white man and not knowing his place 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows:

Arkansas 1; Florida 7; Georgia 2; Louisiana 1; Mississippi 2; Missouri 1: Texas 1.

LYNCHING DECREASE.

Tuskegee Institute Reports Fifteen in Six Months.

Mobile, Ala., July 1.—In the first six months of 1923, ending June 30, there were 15 lynchings in the United States, according to the records compiled by the Tuskegee, Ala., normal and industrial institute. This is 15 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922 and 21 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

Of those lynched, two were whites and 13 were negroes. One of the latter was a woman. One of those put to death was charged with the crime of rape. The other offenses charged were murder, 2; killing officer of the law, 2; wounding officer of the law, 2; no charge reported, 2; assisting man charged with rape to escape, 1; trying to pass for white, 1; resisting posse searching for man charged with rape, 1; participating in depredations connected with railroad strike, 1; cattle stealing, 1; trying to act like white man and not knowing his place, 1.

The states in which lynching occurred and the number in each state are as follows:

Arkansas, 1; Florida, 7; Georgia, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 2; Missouri, 1; Texas, 1.

N Y C MAIL
JULY 2, 1923

Lynching on Wane; Figures Cut in Half

Mobile, Ala., Today.—In the first six months of 1923 there were fifteen lynchings in the United States, according to the records compiled by the Tuskegee (Ala.) Normal and Industrial Institute.

This is fifteen less than the number, 30, for the first six months of 1922, and twenty-one less than the number, 36, for the first six months of 1921. Of those lynched two were whites and thirteen negroes. One of the latter was a woman.

The number of lynchings in each State is as follows: Arkansas, one; Florida, seven; Georgia, two; Louisiana, one; Mississippi, two; Missouri, one, and Texas, one.

CHARLOTTE, N. C. Observer
JUL 4 - 1923

DECREASE IN LYNCHINGS.

The Department of Research and Records, of Tuskegee Institute, under direction of Monroe Work, has forwarded its report on lynchings—presumably confined to the Southern States—for the first six months of the present year. The disclosure is that there were but 15, against 30, for the same period last year, and against 36 in the first six months of 1921. The record for the six months indicates one in Arkansas; seven in Florida; two in Georgia; one in Louisiana; two in Mississippi; one in Missouri and one in Texas. The Tuskegee Institute collector gets about all the "lynchings" going, and it may be assumed that he has covered the field. The interesting development, therefore, is that the record of lynchings is growing gratifyingly less.

N Y C POST
JULY 5, 1923

Letters From Our Readers

Fewer Lynchings in 1923

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NEW YORK EVENING POST:

SIR: According to the records compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research, Monroe N. Work in charge, in the first six months of 1923, there were fifteen lynchings. This is fifteen less than the number for the first six months of 1922, and twenty-one less than the number for the first six months of 1921.

Of those lynched, two were whites and thirteen were negroes. One of the latter was a woman. One of those put to death was charged with the crime of rape. The other offences charged were: murder, 2; killing officer of the law, 2; wounding officer of the law, 2; no charge reported, 2; assisting man charged with rape to escape, 1; trying to pass for white, 1; resisting posse searching for man charged with rape, 1; participating in depredations connected with railroad strike, 1; cattle stealing, 1; trying to act like white man and not knowing his place, 1.

The States in which lynchings occurred and the number in each State are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 7; Georgia, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 2; Missouri, 1; and Texas, 1

R. R. MOTON,
Principal Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute.
Tuskegee Institute, Alabama, June 30.

Savannah, Ga. NEWS
JUL 4 - 1923

Fifteen lynchings in the United States in the past six months—says the periodic report from Tuskeegee. But one of them wasn't in Chatham county. Why do not the Tuskeegee statisticians record and report such events as the Savannah incident?

Lynchings - 1923.
Reports on Sent Press.

Jan. - June.

1499

COLUMBUS O JOURNAL
JULY 6, 1923

Fewer Lynchings.

During the six-months period ending June 30 there were only 15 lynchings in the United States. During the corresponding period of last year there were 36 lynchings. Lynchings thus far this year were in Florida, Georgia, Arkansas, Mississippi, Louisiana, Missouri and Texas.

The large decrease in number is attributed in part to the vigorous agitation of the public in favor of a federal anti-lynching law and the effort to pass such a law through Congress. The reduction is said to be, in part, a result of the very large migration of colored people from the Southern states, that has brought about a scarcity of labor and threatens to develop a situation that will be serious for the industrial and agricultural interests in those states. With this flow of labor from states where there is urgent need for it, there has been an inclination of the public in those states to do nothing that would add to the volume of the migration.

During the half-year period there has been a number of cases where mobs intent on lynching have been driven away and attacks on prisoners have been stopped by resolute officers. There was a recent notable instance at Savannah, Georgia, where a plucky sheriff stopped a mob that was large in numbers and filled with fury. When the mob appeared before the jail he stepped out and told the men there that if an attack was made on the jail he planned to make all the defense possible, that he had men and munitions to make a real defense and there would be lives lost. Men of courage stood beside him to add emphasis to what he said. He did stop the first attack and he did it so thoroughly that no other efforts to get the prisoner were made. Education of the public to a full realization of the enormity of mob murder will help decrease the number of lynchings, and the election of sheriffs who are willing to defend prisoners will be of large help. Most lynchings can be prevented if a real effort is made.

Westminster S.C. Tribune

JUL 5 - 1923

15 LYNCHINGS DURING FIRST HALF OF YEAR

Mobile, Ala., July 1.—In the first six months of 1923, ending June 30, there were fifteen lynchings in the United States, according to the records compiled by the Tuskegee, Ala., Normal and Industrial Institute. This is fifteen less than the number thirty, for the first six months of 1922 and 21 less than the number, 36, for the first six months of 1921.

Of those lynched, two were whites and thirteen negroes. One of the latter was a woman. One of those put to death was charged with the crime of rape. The other offenses charged were, murder 3; killing officer of the law 2; wounding officer of the law 2; no charge reported 2; assisting man charged with rape to escape 1; trying to pass for white 1; resisting posse searching for man charged with rape 1; participating in depredations connected with railroad strike1; cattle stealing 1; trying to act like white man and not knowing his place 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows.:

Arkansas 1; Florida 7; Georgia 2; Louisiana 1; Mississippi 2; Missouri 1; Texas 1.

S.C. Banner

JUL 2 - 1923

LYNCHINGS SHOW MARKED DECREASE

Record for Period Lower Than for Past Two Years—Florida Leads.

Mobile, Ala., July 1.—In the first six months of 1923, ending June 30, there were 15 lynchings in the United States, according to the records compiled by the Tuskegee Alabama Normal and Industrial institute. This is 15 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922 and 21 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

Of those lynched two were whites and 13 were negroes. One of the latter was a woman.

One of those put to death was charged with the crime of rape. The other offenses charged were: Murder 2; killing officers of the law, 2; wounding officers of the law, 2; no charge reported, 2; assisting man charged with rape to escape, 1; trying to pass for white, 1; resisting posse searching for man charged with rape, 1; participating in depredations connected with railroad strike, 1; cattle stealing, 1; triyng to act like white man and not knowing his place, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 7; George, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 2; Missouri, 1; Texas, 1.

BUFFALO N Y EXPRESS
JULY 5, 1923

Record of lynchings.

Editor Buffalo Express:—I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the first six months of this year. I find according to the records compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the department of records and research that in the first six months of 1923 there were fifteen lynchings. This is fifteen less than the 30 for the first six months of 1922 and 21 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

Of those lynched, two were whites and thirteen were negroes. One of the latter was a woman. One of those put to death was charged with the crime of rape. The other offenses charged were: Murder, two; killing officer of the law, two; wounding officer of the law, two; no charge reported, two; assisting man charged with rape to escape, one; trying to pass for white, one; resisting posse searching for man charged with rape, one; participating in depredations connected with railroad strike, one; cattle stealing, one; trying to act like white man and not knowing his place, one.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, one; Florida, seven; Georgia, two; Louisiana, one; Mississippi, two; Missouri, one; and Tenas, one. R. R. MOTON.
Tuskegee Institute, Ala., July 2.

N Y C TELEGRAM
JULY 2, 1923

Lynchings Show Big Drop for First Half of 1923

MOBILE, Ala., Monday.—In the first six months of 1923, ending June 30, there were fifteen lynchings in the United States, according to records compiled by the Tuskegee (Ala.) Normal and Industrial Institute. This is fifteen less than the thirty for the first six months of 1922, and twenty-one less than the thirty-six for the first six months of 1921. Of those lynched, two were whites and thirteen were negroes. One of the latter was a woman.

The number of lynchings in each State is as follows:—Arkansas 1, Florida 7, Georgia 2, Louisiania 1, Mississippi 2, Missouri 1, Texas 1.

Birmingham, Ala., Age-Herald

JUL 6 - 1923

LYNCHING DECLINES

Few states in any part of the country made more progress in every field of constructive endeavor within the last few years than did Alabama. Its industrial expansion has been a subject of favorable comment everywhere. Its commercial and agricultural growth have been highly commended far and wide. Its educational advancement has attracted attention all over the country. There is another field in which this state made distinct progress and which exercised a potent influence for good not only at home, but abroad. It is in a larger respect for and better enforcement of law. On this depends in large measure the state's development in other worthy lines.

During the first six months of 1923 the South's record in lynchings was greatly improved. According to statistics compiled by the Tuskegee Institute, there were fifteen lynchings in the South, as compared with thirty for the first six months of 1922, and with thirty-six for the corresponding period of 1921. During the first half of 1923 not a single lynching was reported in Alabama.

Two reasons may be assigned for this. First, a considerable number of criminally inclined negroes were probably included among those who left the state to go North and East, and one of the crimes for which lynching is often resorted to showed a decrease. Secondly, the spirit of law observance was stronger in Alabama during this year because of better industrial conditions, with a corresponding decrease in unemployment, and because of the broader influence of education. No small part of mob law is the outgrowth of ignorance, the twin of crime and disorder. As a people become better educated they more fully realize the danger of lawlessness. That no lynching stained the name of Alabama within a period of six months is a source of gratification to every law-abiding citizen of the state. It is a good start that deserves to be maintained in the interests of all the people.

JACKSONVILLE, FLA
Journal
JUL 2 - 1923

15 LYNCHINGS IN FIRST HALF 1923

Florida Is Highest in Report From Tuskegee.

MOBILE.—In the first six months of 1923, ending June 30, there were 15 lynchings in the United States, according to the records compiled by the Tuskegee (Ala.) Normal and Industrial Institute. This is 15 less than the number, 30, for th first six months of 1922 and 21 less than the number, 36, for the first six months of 1921.

Of those lynched, two were whites and thirteen were negroes. One of the latter was a woman. One of those put to death was charged with the crime of rape. The other offenses charged were murder, 2; killing officer of the law, 2; wounding officer of the law, 2; no charge reported, 2; assisting man charged with rape to escape, 1; trying to pass for white, 1; resisting posse searching for man charged with rape, 1; participating in depredations connected with railroad strike, 1; cattle stealing, 1; trying to act like a white man and not knowing his place, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 7; Georgia, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 2; Missouri, 1; Texas, 1.

N Y C CALL
JULY 5, 1923

Tuskegee Reports 14 Lynchings In South for 6 Months of 1923

Half of Number for Same Period of Last Year—Two Whites and Thirteen Negroes Victims.

Fourteen men and one woman were lynched by Southern mobs during the first six months of 1923, according to records compiled by the Department of Records and Research at Tuskegee Institute. This is half the number that were lynched during the same six months of last year, when 30 were lynched, and 21 less than during the same period of 1921, when 36 died at the hands of mobs.

Of those lynched, two were whites and 13 were Negroes. One of the latter was a woman. One of those put to death was charged with the crime of rape. The other offenses charged were: murder, 2; killing officer of the law, 2; wounding officer of the law, 2; no charge reported, 2; assisting man charged with rape to escape, 1; trying to pass for white, 1; resisting posse searching for man charged with rape, 1; participating in depredations connected with railroad strike, 1; cattle stealing, 1; trying to act like white man and not knowing his place, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 7; Georgia, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 2; Missouri, 1, and Texas, 1.

Already Fifteen Lynchings in First 6 Months

Mobile, Ala., July 1.— In the first six months of 1923, ending June 30, there were fifteen lynchings in the United States, according to records compiled by the Tuskegee (Alabama) Normal and Industrial Institute. This is fifteen less than for the first six months of 1921. Of those lynched, two were whites and thirteen were negroes. One of the latter was a woman. The States in which lynching occurred and the number in each States are as follows: Arkansas 1, Florida 7, Georgia 2, Louisiana 1, Mississippi 2, Missouri 1, and Texas 1.

RECORD FOR THE FIRST SIX MONTHS

According to the records compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research, Monroe N. Work in charge, in the first six months of 1923 there were 15 lynchings. This is 15 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922 and 21 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

Of those lynched two were whites and 13 were Negroes. One of the latter was a woman. One of those put to death was charged with the crime of rape. The other offenses charged were: Murder, 2; killing officer of the law, 2; wounding officer of the law, 2; no charge reported, 2; assisting man charged with rape to escape, 1; trying to pass for white, 1; resisting posse searching for man charged with rape, 1; participating in depredations connected with railroad strike, 1; cattle stealing, 1; trying to act like white man and not knowing his place, 1.

The States in which lynchings occurred and the number in each State are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 7; Georgia, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 2; Missouri, 1, and Texas, 1.

Lynching Declines In Current Year

Tuskegee Institute Report Shows Falling Off of Mob Lawlessness.

Tuskegee, Ala., July 3.—In the first six months of 1923, ending June 30, there were 15 lynchings in the United States, according to the records compiled by the Tuskegee, Ala., Normal and Industrial Institute. This is 15 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922 and 21 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

Of those lynched, two were whites and thirteen were Negroes. One of the latter was a woman. One of those put to death was charged with the crime of rape. The other offenses charged were: murder 2; killing officer of the law 2; no charge reported 2; assisting man 2; wounding officer of the law 2; charged with rape to escape 1; trying to pass for white 1; resisting posse searching for man charged with rape 1; participating in depredations connected with railroad strike 1; cattle stealing 1; trying to act like white man and not knowing his place 1.

The states in which lynchings occured and the number in each state are as follows:

Arkansas 1; Florida 7; Georgia 2; Louisiana 1; Mississippi 2; Missouri 1; Texas 1.

N Y C TELEGRAM
JULY 3, 1923

Lynching Record for the First Six Months of 1923.

EDITOR OF THE EVENING TELEGRAM:—

I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the first six months of this year. I find, according to the records compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research, Monroe N. Work, in charge, that in the first six months of 1923 there were fifteen lynchings. This is fifteen less than the number thirty for the first six months of 1922 and twenty-one less than the number thirty-six for the first six months of 1921.

Of those lynched, two were whites and thirteen were negroes. One of the latter was a woman. One of those put to death was charged with the crime of rape. The other offences charged were:—Murder, two; killing officer of the law two; wounding officer of the law, two; no charge reported, two; assisting man charged with rape to escape, one; trying to pass for white, one; resisting posse searching for man charged with rape, one; participating in depredations connected with railroad strike, one; cattle stealing, one; trying to act like white man and not knowing his place, one.

The States in which lynchings occurred and the number in each State are as follows:—Arkansas, one; Florida, seven Georgia, two; Louisiana, one; Mississippi, two; Missouri, one, and Texas one.

R. R. MOTON,
Principal Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute.

Tuskegee, Ala., July 1, 1923.

JUL 2 - 1923

NEWER LYNCHINGS THIS YEAR

Only Fifteen Illegal Executions Reported For First Six Months

Mobile, Ala., July 1.—In the first six months of 1923, ending June 30, there were 15 lynchings in the United States, according to the records compiled by the Tuskegee Alabama Normal and Industrial Institute. This is 15 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922 and 21 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

Of those lynched two were whites and 13 were negroes. One of the latter was a woman.

One of those put to death was charged with the crime of rape. The other offenses charged were: Murder, 2; killing officers of the law, 2; wounding officers of the law, 2; no charge reported, 2; assisting man charged with rape to escape, 1; trying to pass for white, 1; resisting posse searching for man charged with rape, 1; participating in depredations connected with railroad strike, 1; cattle stealing, 1; trying to act like white man and not knowing his place, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 7; Georgia, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 2; Missouri, 1; Texas, 1.

LYNCHING ON DECLINE

Tuskegee, Ala., July 1.—In the first six months of 1923, ended June 30th, there were 15 lynchings in the United States, according to records compiled by the Tuskegee (Ala.) Normal and Industrial Institute. This is 15 less than the number for the first six months of 1922, and 21 less than the number for the first six months of 1921.

Of those lynched, two were whites and 13 Negroes. One of the latter was a woman. One charge was criminal assault. The other offenses charged were: Murder, 2; killing officer, 2; wounding officer, 2; no charge reported, 2; assisting accused man to escape, 1; trying to pass for white, 1; resisting posse searching for accused man, 1; participating in depredations connected with railroad strike, 1; cattle stealing, 1; trying to act like white man, 1.

The States in which lynchings occurred and the number in each State are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 7; Georgia, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 2; Missouri, 1; Texas, 1.

N Y C SUN
JULY 2, 1923

Big Decrease in Lynchings.

MOBILE, Ala., July 2.—The first six months of 1923 ended June 30, there were 15 lynchings in the United States, according to the records compiled by the Tuskegee, Ala., Normal and Industrial Institute. This is 15 less than the number, 30, for the first six months of 1922 and 21 less than the number, 36, for the first six months of 1921. Of those lynched 2 were whites and 13 were negroes. One of the latter was a woman. The number of lynchings in each State is as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 7; Georgia, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 2; Missouri, 1; Texas, 1.

ASHEVILLE, N. C., Citizen
Times
JUL 7-1923

Reporting Progress

That the South is making enheartening progress in its attempt to put an end to organized lawlessness is conclusively demonstrated by the lynching statistics which are published in the Readers Referendum column of this issue.

These figures show that there were only 15 lynchings during the first six months of this year. This means a reduction of fifty per cent over the same period of 1922. Compared with the showing for 1921, the record is still more impressive in the progress which it reveals.

One lynching in the South in the course of six months is one too many. It proves that in one community citizens have usurped the authority of the courts and the law has failed in a notorious fashion to vindicate itself.

It is too much to hope, however, that the barbarous lynching practice can be ended over night. Many years must elapse before the South will be able to point in any one year to a clean record. It is enough now to know that headway is being made and that the public sentiment of this section which is standing out boldly for the suppression of mob violence is not laboring in vain.

Houston Tex.
Press JUL 3 - 1923

Decline in Lynchings.

Mobile, Ala., July 3.—In the first six months of 1923, ending June 30, there were 15 lynchings in the United States, according to the records compiled by the Tuskegee Alabama Normal and Industrial Institute. This is 15 less than the number for the first six months of 1922.

Lynchings—1923.
Reports on, Sent Press.

Jan.— June.

1500

N Y C CALL
JULY 16, 1923

Lynchings Fewer by 66 P. C., Liberties Union Reports

Arrest of 58 I. W. W. in Portland Cited as Example of Political Injustice.

A two-thirds decrease in the number of lynchings in the United States since 1922 is reported for the first six months of 1923, the American Civil Liberties Union says in its report for the week of July 1.

The arrest of 58 members of the I. W. W. in Portland, Ore., for reminding the public which heard President Harding's Independence Day speech against agitators that he had left behind him two score political prisoners in Federal prisons is a dramatic example of injustice arising out of an emergency.

The importance of the appeal of Charlotte Anita Whitney in the United States Supreme Court overshadows the continued prosecutions of members of the I. W. W. under the California criminal syndicalism law, the constitutionality of which will be determined by the decision in the Whitney case.

MOB VIOLENCE.

1. **Alabama.**—The number of lynchings in the first six months of 1923 were 15 less than in the same period of 1922, according to figures issued by Tuskegee Institute. Of the 15 lynchings, Florida had 7, Georgia, 2; Mississippi, 2; Louisiana, Missouri, Arkansas and Texas, 1. A decrease of 22 lynchings is reported by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People for the same period.

2. **Louisiana.**—An inquiry into the Bogalusa labor war killings, in which four labor leaders were shot by a citizens' posse November 22, 1919, was begun on July 5, after a carefunl preparation of evidence by Thomas J. Greer president of the State Federation of Labor of Shreveport.

3. **Oklahoma.**—A masked band a Picher seized George Thompson, miner of Ottawa County, on June 2 and subjected him to an operation, after he had been acquitted of charge brought against him by a girl.

4. **Texas.**—Acting-Governor T. W. Davidson has declared that ever ranger in the state will be used necesssary to trace the members of th masked band which murdered Ott Lange, a farmer of Somerville, when he refused to leave his home with his 3-year-old child at the orders of the band.

5. **James Holland,** an I. W. W. organizer who had been ordered released by Judge E. A. McDowell at Galveston, under his ruling that membership in the organization was not a crime in Texas, was beaten by a mob of citizens on June 30. He was taken to the Galveston Hospital.

KU KLUX KLAN ACTIVITIES.

6. **Alabama.**—Claiming that they represented the sentiment of 50,000 Klansmen throughout the state, hundreds of members marched the streets of Tuskegee on July 3 in protest against the appointment of Negro officials in the Government hospital for Negro war veterans.

7. **Illinois.**—Governor Small signed the Anti-Klan bill recently prohibiting the appearance in public of persons "hooded and masked to conceal their identity," with a maximum sentence of $1,000 fine or one year's imprisonment.

8. **Ohio.**—Seventy-five Klansmen marching at the head of a funeral procession in Springfield on July 6 were arrested on charges of disorderly conduct following a ruling of Police Judge Davis authorizing the arrest of three or more persons appearing on the street in masks.

9. **Texas.**—William J. Simmons, emperor of the Klan, in an interview preceding his address to 20,000 citizens at Beaumont on June 29, admitted that the Klan in Texas was "approaching revolt."

10. **South Carolina.**—Railroad officials recently estimated that 22 per cent of the Negro population of the state had migrated to the North leaving a white population in excess of the Negroes for the first time in a hundred years.

11. **Virgina.**—Thirty persons, mostly foreigners, were sleeping in a building in Fredericksburg when police found a bomb filled with nitro-glycerine on July 4. Some of the men had received threatening letters from the Klan.

PROSECUTIONS.

12. **California.**—Ira Pope, Sacramento newsboy held for more than a week on a charge of selling literature without a permit, was released on June 30, the prosecution admitting that no conviction could be secured under the present city ordinance.

13.—The appeal in the case of Charlotte Anita Whitney, important as a test of the state criminal syndicalism law, has come up before the U. S. Supreme Court.

14.—Change of venue asked in the case of Stewart, Driscoll and Wukusich, charged with criminal syndicalism, was denied when Judge Busick of Sacramento, who had previously shown prejudice retained the trial of the case.

15.—Of 14 cases under the criminal syndicalism law recent reports show five acquittals and one conviction in Eureka, the release of five men in Oroville and a jury disagreement in the case of three in Fresno.

16. **Idaho.**—The cases of William Dingham and Joseph Doyle, convicted of criminal syndicalism in 1921 and important as representing prosecutions under this law in Idaho, were recently reversed in the State Supreme Court.

17. **Kansas.**—Thirty-seven members of the Agricultural Workers' Industrial Union were recently arrested at Hutchinson on vagrancy charges.

18. **Oregon.**—While President Harding, in an address before citizens of Portland on Independence Day, was urging the deportation and imprisonment of agitators for political charge, 58 men and women were arrested for distributing placards advocating the release of the remaining Federal class war prisoners and held in $500 bail each until the President had left the city.

MEETINGS.

19. **Pennsylvania.**—A meeting scheduled to be held in the Alhambra Theatre in New Kensington on July 1 by the Polish Sick Benefit Society of Pittsburg was prevented by the refusal of the chief of police to grant a permit on the ground that it was to be a Socialist meeting.

STRIKES AND PICKETING.

20. **Massachusetts.**—City Solicitor Handrahan ruled on July 7 that picketing by the boot and shoe strikers in Brockton is illegal and 100 pickets were arrested following violation of this ruling.

21. **New York.**—The Appellate Division of the Supreme Court on June 30 denied the application of the Jeannette Dress Company for an injunction against the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, upholding a decision of Justice Bijur in which he sustained the contention of counsel that a strike which has for its object the unionizing of a factory is not a conspiracy.

MISCELLANEOUS.

22. **Tennessee.**—Seven professors of the University of Tennessee have been dismissed recently after being compelled to answer a questionnaire directed toward the discovery of the liberal elements in the faculty. Trouble started with the dismissal several weeks previously of Dr. J. W. Sprowls for teaching the evolutionary hypothesis.

23. **Washington.**—Disbarment proceedings against Elmer Smith, labor attorney of Centralia, have been postponed at least six weeks by the sustaining on July 5 of motions of the defense to have the charges restated.

Branch Headquarters Open to Socialist Voters For Signing Petitions

Local New York, Socialist party, announced last night that the petitions for candidates in the coming elections are all ready for signing by the enrolled voters of the various districts.

Enrolled Socialist voters of the following districts may sign the petitions at the headquarters of the branches to that district:

1st and 2d Assembly districts, 140 Henry street.

3d, 5th and 10th Assembly districts, 7 East 15th street, Room 505.

4th Assembly district, 132 Broome street.

6th Assembly district, 257 East 4th street.

8th Assembly district, 73 St. Marks place.

15th and 16th Assembly districts, 227 East 84th street.

17th, 18th and 20th Assembly districts, 62 East 106th street.

LYNCHING RECORD FALLING OFF SOME

The lynching record for the past six months is greatly decreased and in all states encouraging signs are shown. Fifteen persons were lynched during the past six months, two of this number being white, thirteen Negroes and one o fthis number a woman. Dr. R. R. Moton, principal of the Tuskegee Institute, in giving out the statement makes the following expression:

Dear Sir:

I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the first six months of this year. I find according to the records compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research, Monroe N. Work in charge, that in the first six months of 1923 there were 15 lynchings. This is 15 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922 and 21 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

Of those lynched, two were whites and thirteen were Negroes. One of the latter was a woman. One of those put to death was charged with the crime of rape. The other offences charged were: Murder ,2; killing of officer of the law, 2; wounding officer of the law, 2; no charge reported, 2; assisting man charged with rape to escape, 1; trying to pass for white, 1; resisting posse searching for man charged with rape, 1; participating in depredations connected with railroad strike, 1; cattle stealing, 1; trying to act like white man and not knowing his place, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 7; Georgia, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 2; Missouri, 1; and Texas, 1.

R. R. MOTON.

THE LYNCHING RECORD

For the First Six Months in 1923 is Greatly Reduced from Previous Years.

Editor, Louisville News.

I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the first six months of this year. I find according to the records compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research, Monroe N. Work in charge, that in the first six months of 1923 ther ewere 15 lynchings. This is 15 less than the number, 30, for the first six months of 1922, and 21 less than the number, 36, for the first six months in 1921.

Of those lynched, two were whites and thirteen were Negroes. One of the latter was a woman. One of those put to death was charged with the crime of rape. The other offenses charged were:

Murder,2; killing officer of the law, 2; wounding officer of the law 2; no charge reported, 2; assisting man charged with rape to escape, 1; trying to pass for white, 1; resisting posse searching for man charged with rape, 1; participating in depredations connected with railroad strike, 1; cattle stealing, 1; trying to act like white man and not knowing his place, 1.

The States in which lynchings occurred and the number in each State are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 7; Georgia, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 2; Missouri, 1; Texas, 1.

Yours very truly,

R. R. MOTON, Prin.

Lynching League's Standing For First Half of '23 Season

According to the records compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the department of records and research, in the first six months of 1923 there were 15 lynchings. This is 15 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 21 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

Of those lynched, two were whites and 13 were Negroes. One of the latter was a woman. One of those put to death was charged with the crime of rape. The other offenses charged were: Murder, 4; killing officer of the law, 2; wounding officer of the law, 2; no charge reported, 2; assisting man charged with rape to escape, 1; trying to pass for white, 1; resisting posse searching for man charged with rape, 1; participating in depredations connected with railroad strike, 1; cattle stealing, 1; trying to act like white man and not knowing his place, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 7; Mississippi, 2; Georgia, 2; Louisiana, 1; Missouri, 1, and Tex-

LYNCHINGS SHOW LARGE DECREASE

MOBILE, Ala., July 1.—In the first six months of 1923 ending June 30, there were 15 lynchings in the United States, according to the records by the Tuskegee, Ala., Normal and Industrial institute. This is 15 less than for the first six months of 1921. Of those lynched two were whites and 13 were negroes. One of the latter was a woman.

The States in which lynching occurred, and the number in each State is as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida, seven; Georgia, two; Louisiana, one; Mississippi, two; Missouri one, Texas, one.

Mobile, Ala., July 1 —In the first six months of 1923, ended June 30, there were 15 lynchings in the United States, according to the records compiled by the Tuskegee (Ala.) Normal and Industrial Institute. This is 15 less than the number (30) for the first six months of 1922 and 21 less than the number (36) for the first six months of 1921.

Of those lynched, two were whites and 13 were Negroes.

LYNCHING OF HUMAN BEINGS FALLS OFF—ALABAMA IS OUT OF THE RECORD

It is encouraging when we note the fact that the lynchers during the past six months have been either on a vacation or the law-abiding citizens have demanded a halt. According to the reports from Tuskegee made by the Research Department of that institution and certified to by Principal R. R. Moton, only fifteen lynchings occurred in the past six months, two of which were white men, thirteen Negroes and one of the latter a woman. As to the charges against these people so brutally murdered, they are just about as of always: The most frivolous kind. One is cited for rape, the other fourteen were for petty offenses or where they exercised the God-given right of self-defense.

Whatever might be said to the contrary respecting the Anti-lynching Bill introduced in Congress some months ago and killed by filibustering Southern senators, it must have had some psychological effect on the people of this country, and if such a bill is forced to the records we might feel assured that there will be no more lynching and persons committing crime that should meet the death penalty will be brought before a court of law and handled under civilized rules.

It is altogether pleasing to note the change, regardless of what may have brought it about. Lynching is contagious. The mob spirit is the most dangerous and law-wrecking act that we may think of. The act does not end in the savage and unlawful taking away of a single individual, but it disrupts society and creates hatred for individuals and races, destroys confidence and feeds a devilish spirit of prejudice. It cannot accomplish any good end. It corrupts the entire community and no one can measure the distance of its evil influence.

It is the hope that the record will continue to decrease and every citizen, regardless to race, will do his full duty in accomplishing this end.

CHATTANOOGA, TENN.
News
JUL 5 - 1923

FEWER LYNCHINGS LATELY.

There has been a notable improvement in the country's lynching record, acording to statistics gathered at Tuskegee institute. For the first six months of the present year there were fifteen lynchings, which is exactly half of the number reported for the first six months of last year. Most of those reported occurred in the south and most of the victims were negroes, but not all. Of the fifteen, seven are credited to Florida. Georgia, on the other hand, exhibits a marked improvement as well as a determination to check the evil inside her borders.

As a result of the agitation over her brutal methods of handling convict labor Florida has recently made a persistent effort to improve that situation. Her record of lynchings suggests that she should not weary in well doing but should give some attention to the due process of law. With 47 per cent of the country's lynchings chalked up against her, it is easy to see what a black eye she gives the south. But for her lapse a fine showing for the whole country have been made.

For felicitati[ous] event that such a noticeable reduction is shown in the number of lynchings. While other flagrant instances may continue to flare up here and there, we believe a material improvement is in progress. Public opinion in the south has gradually grown stronger against the practice and southern state governments are much less indifferent than was formerly the case. There have also lately been fewer offenses which usually provoke lynchings.

It is unnecessary here to rehearse explanations of why more lynchings occur in the south. It may be well to note that many mob murders such as sometimes occur in northern states are not classified as lynchings, though esentially they are that. For instance, the twenty-one slain miners at Herrin, Ill., were not enumerated among the victims of lynchers. Had they and others like them been included there would have been a different showing. Those who collect such statistics are never over fair to the south.

Enterprise
JUL 12 1923

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No lynchings occurred in North Carolina during the first six months [illegible]g to a report

of the lynching record compiled by the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial institute, Alabama.

Florida lead with seven lynchings during the period.

There were fifteen lynchings during the period.

The report follows in full.

"This is 15 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922 and 21 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

"Of those lynched, two were whites and thirteen were negroes. One of the later was a woman. One of those put to death was charged with the crime of rape. The other offenses charged were murder 2; killing officer of the law 2; wounding officer of the law 2; no charge reported 2; assisting man charged with rape 1; trying to pass for white 1; resisting posse searching for man charged with rape 1; participating in depredations connected with railroad strike 1; cattle stealing 1; trying to act as white man and not knowing his place 1.

"The states in which lynchings occured and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 7; Georgia 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 2; Missouri, 1; and Texas 1."

Statesville N.C.
Landmark
JUL 3 - 1923

Statistics of lynchings, tabulated and reported semi-annually by the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute (the negro institution in Alabama founded by Booker Washington), show 15 cases of mob murder in the United States for the first six months of this year—just half the number for the same period last year and 21 less than for the corresponding period of 1921. While we can't be sure that this very noticeable decrease of inexcusable mob murder indicates a permanent cessation, it is very encouraging. The lynchings were confined to a half dozen States. Florida leads with seven, Georgia and Mississippi have two each, Arkansas, Missouri and Texas one each. Only one of the victims was charged with the crime usually offered as an excuse for lynching, and only two were charged with murder. One was lynched for "trying to act like a white man and not knowing his place," from which it will be seen that imitating the white man is considered very bad form in

Lynchings - 1923.
Reports on, Sent Press.

1501

Dec.

Lynchings in 1923

PRINCIPAL R. R. MOTON of the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute reports as follows on the year's crime and disaster as compiled by Monroe N. Work of the Department of Records of the Institute: "I find that there were twenty-eight persons lynched in 1923—in Arkansas, 2; Florida, 8; Georgia, 4; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 8; Missouri, 1; Oklahoma, 1; Texas, 2; Virginia, 1. This is twenty-nine less than the number fifty-seven for the year 1922. Thirteen of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, seven from jails and six from officers of the law outside of jails. Of the twenty-eight persons lynched in 1923, twenty-six were negroes and two were whites; two of the former were women. We also found that there were forty-six instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Four women, three white and one colored, were among those thus saved. Six of these preventions of lynchings were in Northern States and forty in Southern States. In thirty-seven of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In the nine other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. In eight instances during the year persons charged with being connected with lynching mobs were brought to trial. Of the fifty-two persons thus before the courts only two were sent to the penitentiary."

Jan. 22, 1924. Spectator, London.

There were less than half as many lynchings in the United States in 1923 as in 1922, and the famous negro institute of Tuskegee reports that 46 lynchings were prevented last year "by officers of the law"—an encouraging fact. The National Association for the Advancement of the Coloured People attributes the improved state of affairs to the northward migration of hundreds of thousands of negroes and to the fear of Federal intervention inspired in the south by the Dyer anti-lynching Bill. There is still plenty of room for improvement, for the *New York Nation* reports that 26 violent deaths were suffered in cases of "mistaken identity, aiding in escape, associating with white women, being in an automobile accident and remaining in a town where negroes were not wanted and frightening white children by walking on a country road."

Lynchings—1923.
Reports on, Sent Press, Editorial Comments on

1502

KNOXVILLE TIMES
Mar -
JAN 3 -

PUT AN END TO MOBOCRACY

Fortunately, the disturbances of the past two or three days between the whites and blacks of Jacksonville, Fla., and in Arkansas will be credited to the year 1923. A crusade for 1924 ought to center about making an end to the mob habit in the south. If we are to have law and order we ought to have it in all relations of community life and not confined to putting down the bootlegger. If we would only realize it, the bootlegger and the mobocrat act from the same impulse.

The above clipping appeared in the form of an editoria in The Chattanooga Times of New Year's day and is in keeping with the policy of that excellent publication in advocating law and order as has been exhibited during the many years of its existence, and no doubt expresses the sentiment of the large number of justice-loving, fair-minded white citizens who inhabit our southland.

Statistics as compiled by Monroe N. Work, of Tuskegee Institute, show a marked decrease in lynchings during the year which has just passed, and without a doubt such is due to the campaign for law and order and fair play to all men as has been waged by such publications as The Times and such organizations as the Inter-racial committees, which are now functioning in many states of the south.

The negro feels very keenly the race hatred as is exhibited by the mobocrats, but members of the race are encouragd to exhibit patience with the hopes of seeing a time in the very near future when the lawless element will give way to the power of the justice-loving Christian white man who without a doubt is the most powerful in conducting the affairs of our government.

No thoughtful member of the race would for one mo ment appear as condoning crime in the minutest detail. Certainly not the least bit of sympathy is exhibited toward a criminal, but the race is desirous of having protection to the extent that the law-abiding, self-respecting members of the race will receive the protection due him and that a fair and impartial trial will be given those accused of crime.

FRANKFORT IND NEWS
JANUARY 11, 1924

YEAR'S [illegible] RECORD

It speaks volumes for the better thought of the nation that the lynching record for the year 1923 shows a marked decline from the record of the preceding year. The proportion is 28 in 1923 as against 57 in 1922. An increase in the number of preventions of lynchings also is impressive. As time goes on, doubtless we shall hear from year to year of a continued reduction in the total number of those who have been victims of lynch law.

In a country so far advanced intellectually as ours, it is perfectly proper to look at this subject from its many angles. The passions of men easily are brought to the blazing point, but we are learning from year to year the advantages which come from sober reflection upon the lessons of the past. Racial feelings which enter into so many instances of lynching, shall have to be tempered by more serious thought upon the desirability of letting the law take its course ,and law on the other hand without respect to the racial sentiments which enter into the situation shall have to act swiftly and with justice in such cases as may demand less delay than most cases command. The rest of the in America as though we were semi-barbaric n our national life. What we condemn in others we cannot afford t oecdone among ourselves. The reduction in the number of lynchings in America is due to several causes. One of these is less of crime world looks upon this continuation of lynching party, and another cause is the more widespread dispostion to let law take its course in such experiences.

Statesville N. C
Daily -
JAN 3 - 1924

THE DECREASE IN LYNCHINGS

The lynching record for 1923 is reduced a fraction over 50 per cent, as compared with 1922. That is to say mob murders last year were only 28 while in 1922 there were 57. Evidently lynching is on the decline. At last there is hope that this blot on our Southern civilization is to be removed. It will be a long time before it entirely disappears. But the best evidence that it is going is not only the decrease in the number of lynchings last year, which is astonishing considering that lawlessness generally seems to be increasing rather than decreasing, but the fact that there were 46 instances during the year in which officers of the law prevented lynchings, and 40 of these were in the Southern States. That is the best evidence that mob murder is falling into disfavor Law enforcement officers, from Governors of States on down, have not only realized that they can prevent these mob murders, but that it is the popular thing to do. They could have been prevented all along. The trouble was that public officials feared the people; they thought public sentiment actually approved the lynchings Public opinion has at last made itself felt. The lynchers as a rule represented but a small minority and no a desirable minority at that.

We haven't yet reached the point of punishing the murderers, with a few exceptions. Fifty-two persons were called into court last year, charged with participation in mob murders, but only two of the 52 reached State prison. While the disposition to punish this class of crime is yet lacking, the fact that a half hundred persons were arrested and that two got to State prison, is some evidence of progress. But the most gratifying evidence is the actual decrease in lynchings and the number of preventions.

As is usual, the lynchings disprove the old story that they are the result of the crime against women. Of the 28 lynchings last year, only one-fourth were charged with this offense. A white man, was lynched for participating in a strike and a negro was lynched for "trying to act like a white man and not knowing his place."

Dorchester, S. C
Eagle -
JAN 4 - 1924

CLEAN RECORD AS TO LYNCHING

Columbia, Dec. 31.—The year 1923 was noteworthy in South Carolina because, among other things as to lynchings, according to a statement made tonight at the office of Governor McLeod.

Last year lacked but one day of having a clear record, as the last lynching marked up for South Carolina occurred on January 1, 1922, in Aiken county, it was said.

Lynchings - 1923.
Reports on, Sent Press.

Jan. — Dec.

1503

OSKALOOSA IA HER
UESDAY, JANUARY 1, 1924.

28 LYNCHINGS IN YEAR JUST PAST

TWO WERE WHITES AND REST NEGROES

LESS THAN HALF 1922 RECORD

Strike Depredations, Murder, Assault Rape, Stealing, Window Peeping, Etc. are Included in Charges Launched Against Victims

Tuskegee Institute, Ala., Jan. 1.—Lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research Monroe N. Work in charge numbered 28. This is 29 less than the number, 57, for the year 1922. Thirteen of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 7 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails.

We also find that there were 46 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Four women, 3 white and 1 colored, were among those thus saved. Six of these preventions of lynchings were in Northern States and 40 in Southern States. In 37 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In the 9 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lyncehrs. In 8 instances during the year persons charged with being connected with lynching mobs were brought to trial. Of the 52 persons thus before the courts only 2 were sent to the penitentiary.

26 Negroes; 2 Whites

Of the 28 persons lynched in 1923, 26 were negroes and 2 were whites; two of the former were women, 7 or one fourth of those put to death were charged with rape or attempted rape one of the victims was burned to death one was put to death and then the body burned. The charge against the one burned to death was murder.

The offense charged against the negroes were: murder, 3; murderous assault, 2; rape 6; attempted rape killing officer of the law, 2; wounding officer of the law, 2; no charge reported, 3; assisting man charged with rape to escape, 1; resisting posse searching for man charged with rape, 1; cattle stealing 1; "trying to act like white man and not knowing his place" 1; insulting woman 1; peeping in window, 1; striking man in altercation, 1.

Lynchings in Nine States

The nine states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas 2; Florida 8; Georgia 4; Louisiana 1; Mississippi 8; Missouri 1; Oklahoma 1; Texas 2; Virginia 1.

DUBUQUE IOWA HER
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 30, 1923.

28 LYNCHINGS IN CLOSING YEAR

NUMBER IS 29 LESS THAN TOTAL REPORTED DURING 1922.

46 LYNCHINGS WERE PREVENTED

Of the 28 Persons Put to Death 26 Were Negroes and Two Were Whites.

Twenty-eight persons were lynched during the year just closing, according to figures compiled by Monroe N. Work, in charge of the Department of Records and Research of the Tuskegee Institute. This is 29 less than in 1922 when 57 persons were lynched. Thirteen of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, seven from jails and six from officers of the law outside jails.

The report further states:

We also find that there were 46 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Four women, three white and one colored, were among those thus saved. Six of these preventions of lynchings were in northern states and 40 in southern states. In 37 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In the nine other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. In eight instances during the year persons charged with being connected with lynching mobs were brought to trial. Of the 52 persons thus before the courts only two were sent to the penitentiary.

Of the 28 persons lynched in 1923, 26 were negroes and two wer whites, two of the former were women. Seven, or one-fourth of those put to death, were charged with rape or attempted rape; one of the victims was burned to death; one was put to death and then the body was burned. The charge against the one burned to death was murder.

The offenses charged against the whites were: participation in strike depredations, 1; being taken as a negro, 1. The offenses charged against the negroes were: murder 3; murderous assault, 2; rape, 6; attemped rape, 1; killing officer of the law, 2; wounding officer of the law 2; no charge reported, 3; assisting man charged with rape to escape 1; resisting posse searching for man charged with rape, 1; cattle stealing, 1; "trying to act like white man and not knowing his place," 1; insulting woman, 1; peeping in window, 1; striking man i altercation, 1.

The nine states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 2; Florida, 8; Georgia, 4; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 8; Missouri, 1; Oklahome, 1; Texas, 2; Virginia 1.

Washington N.C.
News JAN 1 - 1924

LYNCHINGS ON THE DECREASE

Report for 1923 Shows More Than Fifty Per Cent Decrease For the Past Year.

(By Associated Press)

TUSKEGEE, Ala., Jan. 1.—Lynchings in the United States decreased more than fifty per cent during 1923 as compared with 1922, according to figures of the Tuskegee Normal Industrial Institute. The report gives a total of 28 lynchings in 1923 as compared with 57 during the preceding year. Twenty-six negroes two whites and two women were among the victims. Mississippi and Florida each eported eight; Georgia four, Arkansas and Texas, two each Virginia, Missouri, Oklahoma and Louisiana one each, none for North Carolina, South Carolina and Tennessee.

OWOSSO, MICH., ARGUS-PRESS
Wednesday, Jan. 2, 1924

LYNCHINGS IN U. S. DROP FIFTY PER CENT IN 1923, REPORTED

Tuskegee, Ala., Jan. 1.—(By A. P.)—Lynchings in the United States decreased more than 50 percent during 1923, as compared with 1922, according to figures made public by the Tuskegee normal and industrial institute. During 1923, there were 28 lynchings as compared with 57 for the preceding year, these figures showed. Twenty six of the number were negroes and two were whites. Two women were among the victims of the mobs.

BUFFALO EXPRESS
Wednesday, January 2, 1924

LYNCHINGS FELL OFF 50 PER CENT. IN 1923, REPORT

Only 28 during the year, Tuskegee Institute's annual report shows.

Tuskegee, Ala., Jan. 1 (A. P.).—Lynchings decreased more than 50 per cent. during 1923, as compared with 1922, according to figures made public by the Tuskegee normal and industrial institute. During 1923 there were 28 lynchings as compared with 57 for the preceding year in the United States. Twenty-six of the number were negroes and two were whites. Two women were among the victims of mobs.

These figures gave Mississippi and Florida eight each; Georgia four, Arkansas two, Texas two, Virginia one, Missouri one, Oklahoma one, Louisiana, one. None was reported from North Carolina, South Carolina and Alabama, according to the Tuskegee compilation.

The Tuskegee report says there were 45 instances during the year in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Forty of these cases being in sounthern states, and six in northern states.

Thirteen of those lynched last year were taken from the hands of the law, the report states, seven from jails and six from officers outside of jails. Seven of the victims were charged with attack or attempted attack three with murder, two with murderous assault, two for wounding an officer of the law, and the rest with other offenses.

COLUMBIA S. C.
Christian Advocate
JAN 10 1924

THE LYNCHING INFAMY YIELDING TO PUBLIC SENTIMENT

The lynching record for 1923 as compiled by the Department of Records and Research of Tuskegee Institute demonstrates once more the power of aroused public sentiment to suppress the most implacable and age-old evils, as well as the ability of the proper agencies to change public sentiment however obdurate, whensoever they earnestly address themselves to the task.

The 57 lynchings of 1922 were reduced to 28 in 1923—that is cut to one-half. In 46 reported instances lynchings were prevented by officers of the law, and forty of these prevented lynchings were in Southern States. In 37 of these cases the prisoners were removed or the jail guards augmented, while in 9 instances armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. In 8 instances during the year persons charged with being connected with lynching mobs were brought to trial, and of those before the courts on this charge two were sent to the penitentiary.

The Northern Press seeks to account for the changed sentiment in the South on two grounds: 1.—The threat of the Dyer law or other federal legislation; 2—Negro migration to the North inspiring the fear that unless better treated here Southern fields will be left untilled. But Southern editors and publicists who are in close touch with the actual situation know that neither of these incidents have exerted any appreciable influence on the situation. They correctly trace it to the awakening of sentiment among whites against the **per se** heinousness of mob murder and its

danger to our civilization, through the education that is being carried on by the press and school and pulpit, and a corresponding awakening, through the same channels, of sentiment among the negroes that has resulted in reducing the frequency of the crime that originally provoked lynching.

A healthy and sane sentiment on the subject continue to function among both races, let this sentiment register itself in the cessation of the crime of rape among the blacks, and in the swift and adequate punishment of lynchers and would-be lynchers among the whites, and in a few years lynchings will be unheard of.

ALTON, ILL. TIMES
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 27, 1923

Number of Lynchings This Year Only 28, Not Half As Many As For 1922

The Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute sends the following concerning lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research, Monroe N. Work in charge. I find that there were 28 persons lynched in 1923. This is 29 less than the number, 57, for the year 1922. Thirteen of the persons lynched were taken fro mthe hands of the law, seven from jails and six from officers of the law outside of jails.

We also find that there were 46 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Four women three white and one colored, were among those thus saved. Six of these preventions of lynchings were in Northern States and 40 in Southern States. In 37 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In the nine other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. In eight instances during the year persons charged with being connected with lynching mobs were brought to trial. Of the 52 persons thus before the courts only two were sent to the peniteitiary.

Of the 28 persons lynched in 1923, 26 were negroes and two were whites; Two of the former were women. Seven, or one fourth of those put to death were charged with rape or attempted rape; one of the victims was burned to death; one was put to death and then the body was burned. The charge against the one burned to death was murder.

The offenses charged against the whites were Participation in strike depredations, 1; being taken as a negro, 1. The offenses charged against the negroes were: Murder, 3; murderous assault, 2; rape, 6; attempted rape, 1; killing officer of the law, 2; wounding officer of the law, 2; no charge reported, 3; assisting man charged with rape to escape, 1; resisting posse searching for man charged with rape, 1; cattle stealing, 1; "trying to act like a white man and not knowing his place," 1; insulting woman, 1; peeping in window, 1; striking man in altercation, 1.

The nine states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 2; Florida, 8; Georgia, 4; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 8; Missouri, 1; Oklahoma, 1; Texas, 2; Virginia, 1.

DEC 30 1923

MAYBE WE HAVE LEARNED.

Tuskeegee's lynching report for the past year, 26 victims of the mob, has set all the reflective-minded to thinking on how it could have happened.

It is the best record ever made by the country; so good that we are suspicious of its meaning and the psychologists are giving us their versions of it. Some of them think we have treated the negro badly that he pulled up stakes and went north, whereupon we ordered our conduct accordingly. The internecine warfare going on within the Ku Klux klan, supposed nemesis of the black, has taken its attention from the negro. And still others wonder if the presence of the klan has not removed much of the necessity for mob law.

Much to our credit, few of us have pretended that we have grown in grace, yet it is not unthinkable that we actually have learned something. We know that lynchings prevent no crimes; they merely acquaint the communities disgraced by them with the ways of the savage. If we have learned any portion of this lesson we probably have contained ourselves when otherwise we had not.

We shall believe that we have learned a little. If we have not, the world about us has, and we are now five years from the international shooting match plus an emotional debauch for several years. Self-control under such conditions was vastly more difficult than today. And we have exercised some of this self containment. Both the whites and the blacks have improved their conduct. They have been on exceptionally good behavior.

Which is something about which a good deal of noise could, with perfect propriety, be made. It is not particularly creditable that it has taken us two generations to see the futility of lynchings, if we have at least seen it in part. The record supports the theory of inward betterment, and that is something.

NEW YORK HERALD
Tuesday, January 1, 1924

MOTON SAYS LYNCHINGS DROPPED A HALF IN 1923

57 Were Put to Death in 1922 and Only 28 in 1923.

TUSKEGEE, Ala., Dec. 31.—R. R. Moton, principal of the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute, has issued his annual statement on lynchings in the United States. He says:

":I find that there were twenty-eight persons lynched in 1923. This is twenty-nine less than the number fifty-siven for the year 1922. Thirteen of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, seven from jails, and six from officers of the law outside of jails.

"There were forty-six instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Four women, three white and one colored, were among those thus saved. Six of these preventions of lynchings were in northern states and forty in Southern states. In thirty-seven of the cases the prisoners were removed or guards augmented or other precautions taken. In the nine other instances armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. In eight instances during the year persons charged with being connected with lynching mobs were brought to trial. Of the fifty-two persons thus before the courts only two were sent to the penitentiary.

"Of the twenty-eight persons lynched in 1923, twenty-six were negroes and two were whites; two of the former were women. The nine States in which lynchings occured and the number in each State are as follows: Arkansas, two; Florida, eight; Georgia, four; Louisiana, one; Mississippi, eight; Missouri, one; Oklahoma, one; Texas, two; Virginia, one.

The offenses charged against the whites were: participation in strike depredations 1; being taken as a Negro, 1. The offenses charged against the Negroes were: murder, 3; murderous assault, 2; rape, 6; attempted rape, 1; killing officer of the law, 2; wounding officer of the law, 2; no charge reported, 3; assisting man charged with rape to escape, 1; resisting posse searching for man charged with rape, 1; cattle stealing, 1; "trying to act like white man and not knowing his place," 1; insulting woman, 1; peeping in window, 1; striking man in altercation 1.

The nine states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 2; Florida, 8; Georgia, 4; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 8; Missouri, 1; Oklahoma, 1; Texas, 2; Virginia, 1.

SACRAMENTO, CAL., BEE
JANUARY 1, 1924

LYNCHINGS LIST IS, T IN HALF EAR CLOSED

JEFFERSONIAN, S. C., Democrat
JAN 1 - 1924

Lynchings During 1923 Only Half As Many as in the Year 1922

Tuskegee Institute, Ala., Dec. 31.—The following concerning lynchings for the past year was compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research, Monroe N. Work in charge. There were 28 persons lynched in 1923. This is 29 less than the number 57 for the year 1922. Thirteen of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 7 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails.

There was 46 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Four women, 3 white and 1 colored, were among those thus saved. Six of these preventions of lynchings were in Northern States and 40 in Southern States. In 37 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In the 9 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. In 8 instances during the year persons charged with being connected with lynching mobs were brought to trial. Of the 52 persons thus before the courts only 2 were sent to the penitentiary.

Of the 28 persons lynched in 1923, 26 were negroes and 2 were whites; two of the former were women. 7 or one fourth of those put to death were charged with rape or attempted rape; one of the victims was burned to death; one was put to death and then the body was burned. The charge against the one burned to death was murder.

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The nine states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 2; Florida, 8; Georgia, 4; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 8; Missouri, 1; Oklahoma, 1; Texas, 2; Virginia, 1.

Twenty-eight Persons, Two Of Them Women, With Mississippi And Florida Leading, Victims Of Mob Action In 1922

TUSKEGEE (Ala.), Jan. 1.—(AP)—Lynchings in the United States decreased more than 50 per cent during 1923, as compared with 1922, according to figures made public by the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute.

During 1923 there were twenty-eight lynchings as compared with fifty-seven for the preceding year, these figures showed.

Two Women Victims.

Twenty-six of the number were negroes and two were whites. Two women were among the victims of mobs.

These figures gave Mississippi and Florida, eight lynchings each; Georgia, four; Arkansas, two; Texas, two; Virginia, one; Missouri, one; Oklahoma, one; Louisiana, one.

Mobs Sometimes Checked.

The Tuskegee report says there were forty-six instances during the year in which officers of the law prevented lynchings.

FRESNO, CAL., HERALD
JANUARY 1, 1924

Lynch In 1923 50 Per Cent Fewer Than Previous Year

TUSKEGEE, Ala., Jan. 1. — Lynchings in the United States decreased more than 50 per cent during 1923, as compared with 1922, according to figures made public by the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute; there were 28 lynchings as compared with 57 for the preceding year, these figures showed. Twenty-six of the number were negroes and two were whites. Two women were among the victims of mobs.

These figures gave Mississippi and Florida eight lynchings each; Georgia four; Arkansas two; Texas two; Virginia one; Missouri one; Oklahoma one; Louisiana one.

The Tuskegee report says there were 46 lynchings during the year in which officers of the law prevented lynchings.

BAKERSFIELD, CAL. ECHO
JANUARY 2, 1924

LYNCHINGS DECREASE

TUSKEGEE, Ala., Jan. 1.—Lynchings in the United States decreased more than 50 per cent during 1923 as compared with 1922, according to figures made public by the Tuskegee normal and industrial institute. During 1923, there were 28 lynchings as compared with 57 for the preceding year, these figures showed. Twenty six of the number were negroes and two were whites. Two women were among the victims of mobs.

Lynchings—1923.
Side Lights.

1504 Alabama.

ED DANIELS QUICKLY IDENTIFIES ONE OF HIS KIDNAPPERS

Special from Reporter
Thomasville Ala

PHYSICIAN ATTENDED WOUNDED MAN SUSPECT WAS IN SAME AUTO—U. S. MAY INTERVENE ON RACIAL GROUNDS.

2-17-23



EDWARD HERMAN DANIELS.

Who Escaped a Mob of Four White Men, and It Is Believed That He Killed One and Mortally Wounded Another.

Mr. Edward Herman Daniels is one of the near victims of the mob spirit and flogging school so prevalent in our section at this time. Daniels tells a most dramatic story of how his assailants attacked him and his Providential escape. Unarmed, unaided and traveling at a rapid speed in an automobile with hands up, a revolver pressed against his temple and one in his side, he wrested this artillery from the white men and in the same second proceeded to fire with exactness and success. Young Daniels declares that one white man is surely dead and the other must be dangerously ill. The man in front of him, he states, was shot in the stomach or chest, while the man near the steering wheel was shot as he, Daniels, left the car in a rapid exchange of shots.

In another column of this paper, the story is told and the faithful work of the officers in the various departments of our government is shown. Daniels is nothing but a youngster, thoroughly composed, weighing about 140 pounds, deliberate, clear and precautious in expression, thoroughly convincing in his method of relating his story and has, no doubt respecting the purpose of the would-be-assassins.

It is to be remembered that in his struggle of escape, he had been wounded by being beaten over the head with severe blows because he simply asked his kidnapers what they were going to do with him. When the shooting started the neighbors claim that the men yelled like panthers and the wailing of their voices still ring out and is remembered round and about the hills and valleys of Sayreton and in the neighborhood of the once known "bloody beat," Lewisburg.

Porter N. Newman, plumbber, 3100 Twelfth Street, North, was identified Wednesday afternoon at 3:30 o'clock as one of the four white men who kidnaped Ed Herman Daniels, Negro, from his residence in North Birmingham at 8 o'clock Monday night, for the alleged purpose of administering a flogging to the man. Daniels identified Newman at first sight, while Newman was standing with four other white men in the warden's office at the city jail.

Newman was arrested by Chief of Police Fred H. McDuff and Detectives T. N. Williamson and W. L. Brannon, when he emerged from the yards of the American Cast Iron and Pipe company, in Acipco, Tuesday afternoon. His arrest was surrounded in secrecy pending his identification by Daniels.

With the arrest of Newman Chief McDuff stated that strong evidence had been obtained tending to implicate William Yerby, Mount Pinson road farmer, confined in South Highlands infirmary from a dangerous pistol bullet wound in the kidnaping episode. Chief McDuff said that the only statement made until late Wednesday night by Yerby was that he was brought to South Highlands infirmary by Newman. When confronted with the statement of Yerby, Newman is said to have corroborated it, but refused to make any other statement.

Newman was identified by Daniels as the white man who appeared at the entrance of the Daniels residence Monday night and told the occupant that he was wanted on a warrant charging violation of the liquor law. Daniels declared that Newman led him out the walk leading to the residence and as they neared the car someone from the rear threw a sack over his head, and then struck him over the head with the butt end of a pistol. Two other white men entered the rear seat and pressed pistols against each side of Daniel's head, and a fourth man drove the car.

Daniels repeated his story of how the car was driven out the Lewisburg road and his sensational escape from the hands of the men by grabbing the guns pressed against his head when the car struck a mud puddle. Daniels said that when he fell out into the road after bursting the door of the car open, Newman fired at him from the front seat of the vehicle. Daniels said that he returned the fire with one of the pistols he had taken from the men on the back seat. Daniels claims that he struck at least one of the men in the car with bullets fired by him. After firing into the car, Daniels said that he took to his heels and found refuge in a Negro cabin near the scene, where he remained until the arrival of officers. Daniels said that he saw the car turn around and go back to Birmingham.

Chief McDuff said that he learned from Dr. Dr. L. F. Jackson, Acipco, that Yerby was brought to his residence for medical attention about 10 o'clock Monday night. Newman was one of the men in the car. Dr. Jackson said that he told the men to take Yerby to South Highlands and that he would follow. Upon arriving at the infirmary, Dr. Jackson said that the car, with Yerby lying on the back seat, was parked in front of the infirmary. The patient was taken inside the infirmary upon orders of Dr. Jackson.

Yerby was shot once, the bullet striking him in the back of the head near the base of the skull and made its exit near his right eye. His precarious condition was unchanged late Wednesday night.

The kidnaping of Daniels resulted from refusal to heed a warning he received three weeks ago to cease operating his jitney between North Birmingham and Sayrton. Daniels was given 10 days to quit the line, under penalty of violence. Names of the persons delivering the warning are being withheld by police.

Police authorities are now making every effort to identify the pistol, taken from the man by Daniels, through its numbers. Results are being expected momentarily by the officers.

Jim C. Smith, United States district attorney, and C. W. McPhail, of the department of justice, were in conference with Chief McDuff Wednesday afternoon with the view toward having the cases aired in federal court. No statutes covering such an offense, unless it be those governing racial disorders, are in existence, according to Smith. James G. Davis, county solicitor, was also consulted with on the case, the decision being reached to have as speedy a trial in Jefferson county circuit court as possible. The charge to be preferred against Newman will probably be assault with intent to murder and kidnaping, or conspiracy to flog.

NEGRO KIDNAPED AND BLINDFOLDED ESCAPES BY SHOOTING CAPTORS.

Daniel's Statement.

Daniels, in a stateent to investigating officers, said that four white men, posing as deputy sheriffs, came to his residence claiming that they had a warrant for his arrest charging violation of the prohibition law. He was marched to a Ford car waiting before his residence and was blind-folded and placed in the bottom of the car. All of his captors then entered the car and drove out the Lewisburg road. Each white man on the back seat pressed a revolver against his head, he claimed.

Daniels said that as the car reached the furthermost end of the overhead bridge on the road, the car, which was traveling at a high rate of speed, struck a mudhole and bounced him and his four captors to the top of the car. As the jolt came, he grabbed both revolvers, one in each hand, and wrenched them from the grasp of the white men. He then threw his weight against the right door of the Ford car, knocking it open and falling out into the mud puddle.

Daniels said that as he fell to the ground, the two men in the front seat who were also armed, fired at him with their pistols. Daniels returned the fire and declares that he hit two of the men.

Then Daniels said that he ran away from his captors when they ceased shooting at him, and made his way home and had his wife summon officers.

DESPERATE NEGRO SHOT AT OFFICERS

Lowndes County Sheriff and Fort Deposit Men Hunt for Jean Sheldon

Montgomery

FORT DEPOSIT, ALA., Dec. 21.—Special To The Advertiser.—The authorities received a wire from Calhoun this morning that Jean Sheldon, negro, had badly beaten and shot a negro woman and was last seen coming in the direction of Fort Deposit.

Advertiser

Officers J. G. Barganier and Don Mastin found him on the railroad a short distance from the depot, and attempted to place him under arrest. The negro drew a pistol and fired three shots at each of the officers as he ran away.

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About 15 shots were exchanged, in a running fight. The officers escaped unhurt, but it is thought that the negro was wounded.

Two innocent negreos on their way to town were struck by flying bullets, one in the arm and the other receiving a burn on the head as a bullet ploughed through his hair.

The fugitive made his escape in the thick woods north of Fort Deposit. The sheriff of Lowndes county was notified, as well as the sheriff of Montgomery county.

A large number of citizens of Fort Deposit heavily armed joined the sheriff tonight in scouring the woods for the negro.

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SUPERINTENDENT OF BELL FARMS IS SHOT MONDAY

In Argument Over Negro's Refusal to Work, Rense Meadows Gets Bullet in Arm; Surrenders After Making Way With White Man's Gun

Rense Meadows, 47, superintendent of the N. J. Bell plantation, near the Montgomery county line is in Sugg's hospital severely injured from being shot in the right shoulder with a pistol at 8 o'clock Monday morning by Johnny Bowie, negro.

Declaring he was justified in shooting, the negro sent his brother-in-law into Montgomery to notify Sheriff Robert C. Cheiln that he was going to surrender.

William Frizzle and other county officers went to McGehee's Switch where Bowie was awaiting for them. He informed the officers that he wanted to be placed in the Montgomery county jail. Bowie was brought to Montgomery and lodged in the county jail here where he is awaiting preliminary hearing.

Mr. Meadows was rushed from the scene of the shooting, which was on the Bell plantation, to Sugg's hospital by Will Day, his nearest neighbor, where an operation was performed. The patient was reported resting well Monday night. The leaden missile struck Meadows in the muscle portion of his right arm and made its exit from near of the right shoulder.

After shooting his white victim Bowie seized Meadow's pistol and fled from the scene. Meadows in a statement to officers said Daisy Bowie, wife of Johnny, begged her husband to shoot after his victim had fallen from his horse.

Meadows explained to officers he had sent Bowie word to come to work Monday morning and received the reply the negro was in no mood for working and was going to move. Meadows said he mounted his horse Monday morning to investigate the cause of Bowie's announced intention of moving and went to the negro's residence. Meadows said he was armed as was his custom on the plantation, when he went to the negro dwelling.

The injured man said upon his arrival he was met at the door by Bowie, who reiterated his refusal to work. Words passed between them, Meadows said, which culminated in the negro drawing his weapon and firing. The bullet struck its mark. Meadows said he had partially drawn his own weapon but dropped it upon being struck by the negro's shot. Meadows said he fell from his horse, whereupon the negro seized his pistol and ran off.

Bowie had been an employe of the estate for some time and had never given previous trouble, according to Mr. Meadows.

NITRATE PLANT GUARD MYSTERIOUSLY SLAIN

Assassin Throws Body in Cistern, Makes Escape.

FLORENCE, Ala., Dec. 9.—The body of Harry S. White, mounted guard at United States nitrate plant number one in Sheffield, was found in two feet of water at the botton of an abandoned cistern on the nitrate plant reservation yesterday afternoon just before twilight by his fellow guards.

It is not known what time the guard met his death, but he punched the clock at Spring Creek at 10:20 a. m., and his riderless horse returned to headquarters shortly after noon.

A gun shot wound in the left temple and tracks of a mule near the cistern indicate his assassin was also mounted and after shooting him off his horse, dragged the lifeless body to the cistern and threw it in, taking the precaution to place the planks over the top in the manner in which he found them. The shell which ended the life of the guard was found, but the officer's gun was gone.

The fact that some small change he carried in his pocket was unmolested, indicated robbery was not the motive for the crime. Sheriff Cobb of Colbert County, is exerting every effort to run down the murdered. He is working on the theory that it was some one who had a grudge against the officer because of some previous trouble.

CONFESS KILLING WHITE

Two Negroes Held For Death of Nitrate Plant Guard.

SHEFFIELD, ALA., Dec. 10.—Government officers at Nitrate Plant No. 1 said today that Sam Greenhill, negro, under grilling, has confessed that he killed Harry S. White, mounted guard, last Saturday morning. White's pistol has been found in Greenhill's home, it is said.

Dave Dewberry, another negro arrested in connection with the killing, admitted to officials that he helped dispose to the officer's body in an abandoned cistern where it was afterwards found.

DALLAS POSSE OUT AFTER TWO NEGROES

Wife of Farmer Assailed With Axe and Home Looted During Husband's Absence

SELMA, ALA. October 29.—Special by Leased Wire to The Advertiser.—Mrs. Monroe Callen, the young wife of a prominent farmer living in Dallas county, six miles from Selma, was attacked with an axe by an unknown negro at her home today, and is tonight in the Baptist hospital here suffering from severe wounds on the head and body. While the first negro attempted to murder Mrs. Callen, another negro looted the home of a sum of money and portable articles.

Both negroes got away, but Sheriff Percy Dawson, Chief of Police Norman Stanfill and a force of regular and volunteer officers forming a large posse are scouring the country through which the fugitives are supposed to have traveled and their arrest is expected during the night.

Husband Away at Time of Crime

The assault on Mrs. Callen and burglary of the home took place at 1 o'clock this afternoon, while Mr. Callen was in town making some purchases. Mrs. Callen was standing on her back porch near a pump washing her hair when attacked. Without any word of warning the negroe's axe crashed down on her head, the assailant apparently coming up behind her. She was struck several blows on the head and body and it is considered remarkable that she retained consciousness long enough to call for help to her servant and to, neighbors across the road.

The neighbors responded and the young woman collapsed. They telephoned an alarm to Selma and the road was soon swarming with armed men in automobiles and on horseback. The husband was one of the first to reach the home and brought with him Dr. John Furnill, who dressed Mrs. Callen's wounds at her home and had her conveyed to hospital here at 6 o'clock this evening.

Under the medical ministrations the young wife recovered consciousness long enough to say that she did not recognize the negroes as of the neighborhood, but would be able to identify them. She was struck on the head three times and her body is cut in several places.

The object of the negroes was apparently the robbery of the home and Mrs. Callen was left for dead in order to prevent an alarm to the neighbors.

The entire community of Selma and in the country near the scene of the assault has been wrought up to a high tension over the brutality of the negroes, but the presence of a large force of regular and special police and deputies with the posse hunting the men is a guarantee that they will be delivered to the county jail here if caught.

Lynchings — 1923
Side Lights on,

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Alabama

COUNTRY SCOURED FOR SLAYER OF GIRL

Montgomery Advertiser

Miss McCullough of Talladega County Is Found Brutally Murdered

2-8-23 VJ

(Special to The Advertiser)

TALLEDAGA, ALA., Feb. 7.—Authorities were continuing their search today for the slayer of Miss Mabelle McCollough, 17 year old girl, whose body was found yesterday a mile from her home near Lincoln, Alabama.

The young woman had gone to meet the rural mail carrier on a road a mile away. When she did not return after several hours the family became alarmed.

Searching parties found signs of a struggle on the isolated road. One hundred feet from that place they discovered the body of the girl, who had been attacked and her head almost severed.

Sheriff Burk and deputies assisted by Mayor R. F. Landham and town officers of Lincoln, together with citizens, are conducting a search for the assailant, but they have made little headway. Owing to the lack of wire communication efforts to apprehend the assailant are greatly hindered.

HOLD MAN IN DEATH OF GIRL, 16

Atlanta Georgian

2-9-23

Bloody Knife Leads to Arrest In Alabama Mystery—Body Hidden In Woods.

(By International News Service.)

ANNISTON, Ala., Feb, 8.—Gorden Fincher, young white man, married, who lives near Lincoln, is in the Talladega county jail today facing a charge of murder in connection with the brutal slaying of Miss Maybelle McCullough, 16 years old, whose mutilated body, with the throat cut, was found in a stump hole near the Pattons Chapel community on Tuesday.

Blood stains said to have been found on a shotgun and pocket knife belonging to Fincher caused his arrest. He admitted, officers state, having talked with the girl while she was en route home from a rural delivery mail box.

Fincher, it is said, lives near the girl's home.

JOE TERRELL IS GIVEN LIFE SENTENCE FOR KILLING GEO. WILSON

Negro Charged With Death of Game Warden Convicted by Jury

Montgomery Advertiser

SENT TO CAMP KILBY

2-28-23

Verdict Is Reached Tuesday After Deliberating About Five Hours

Joe Terrell, young negro charged with the killing of County Game Warden George Wilson, was last night found guilty in the Montgomery county circuit court of murder in the first degree and sentenced to a life term in the state penitentiary. He was immediately taken to Camp Kilby.

A large part of the time intervening between the commission of the crime last September and the conviction yesterday has been spent by Terrell in the Jefferson county jail at Birmingham. From this prison he was brought for trial here last December which ended in a mistrial after the jury had been out several days. He was sent back to Birmingham, but brought here a few days ago to face arraignment, then taken back to the Magic City and on Monday returned again to Montgomery for trial.

The case went to the jury shortly after 2 o'clock yesterday afternoon. About five hours afterwards the jury returned its verdict, signed by the foreman, William T. Perry.

Intense interest was manifested at the second trial as at the first. The court room next to Lawrence street was used for the trial. Its gallery was thrown open to accommodate the throngs of negroes who desired to attend the proceedings. There was no demonstration, but certain of the spectators at one time were so given to bursts of merriment that Judge Walter B. Jones had to inform them that the proceedings were "not a comic opera," and had one section of the court room cleared. After this perfect order was maintained.

Second trial of Joe Terrell, charged with the murder of County Game Warden George Wilson began yesterday morning in the circuit court before Judge Walter B. Jones. The state was represented by Solicitor Temple Selbels, assisted by Jabe W. Brassell, while John Sankey and Henry C. Meader appeared for the defendant, both being appointed by the court.

The following jury was selected: Walter Chesser, Louis C. Felder, T. Charles Kent, Arthur M. Mead, Oliver C. McGehee, Jr., Alvin Boyd, Simon H. Dowling, William T. Perry, S. B. Shell, Walter M. Stripling, Paul R. Whiting, Joseph A. Zadek.

The attorneys for Terrell entered a plea of not guilty by reason of self-defense when the case was called for trial.

Deputy Sheriff J. F. Tucker, the first witness, testified that he, Wilson, and Deputies Joe Partin and L. Vaughn, one Saturday night last fall went out in an automobile on the Mt. Meigs road, the occasion being the search made at that time for the slayer of Policeman Sansom. Deputy Tucker told of the meeting with a party of negroes about five miles from town and the shooting in which Mr. Wilson met his death. On cross examination the witness admitted that he did not actually see the negro Terrell firing his pistol, he (Tucker) being busy with examining another negro at the time the first shot rang out.

Will Flowers, the keeper of the store near which the tragedy took place, stated that Terrell had entered his place of business a few minutes before the shooting. Mr. Flowers stated that the first he knew that something out of the ordinary was happening was when he heard the screams of negro women. He declared that he could not hear words of command shouted to the negroes .

Deputy Partin testified that the first he saw of the party of negroes of which Terrell was one, was when the lights of the car disclosed three negro men and two negro women on the road. They asked two of the negroes, he said, what they were doing and received replies, but when they questioned Terrell he started to make a break as if to gt away. Said there had been no pistol drawn by any of the white men when Terrell opened fire. Witness declared Wilson grabbed Terrell and they rolled into a ditch by the side of the road. Witness was hit by Terrell's first shot. The pistol of Mr. Wilson was never fired, Mr. Partin said.

On cross examination, Mr. Sankey, the deputy, said that the car had strong headlights. Stated that he had said "catch that negro in overalls," after Terrell had started to run.

Deputy L. Vaughn said two shots were fired by defendant before Terrell and Mr. Wilson went into the ditch. Said defendant shot at him (Partin) after shooting Wilson. Said Wilson's pistol was never fired. On cross examination, Mr. Partin said he did not see the first shot fired. When asked by attorney for defense if Wilson had hold of Terrell when the first shot was fired, witness said his notice was attracted by the first shot and he then looked around and saw Wilson holding the negro.

W. R. Waller, who was with Mr. Wilson at the latter's last hours in a local hospital, stted that the bullet extracted from the game warden's spinal column was fired from a 32-calibre pisol. It was brought out that the deputies were armed with pistols of .38 calibre.

Bernard Young, city police officer, told of what Terrell had said after his arrest. Stated that Terrell had said that when the car pulled up he sidled around, trying to get rid of the pistol he had on his person. On cross examination he stated that Terrell had said he fired the pistol. Attorney Sankey asked Mr. Young if the latter did not say at the first trial that Terrell had told him that the pistol went off accidentally. Mr. Sankey read from the testimony taken at the first trial of Terrell a statement by Mr. Young which he (Sankey) thought showed that Terrell had claimed that the firing of the pistol was accidental.

Charlie Redd, a negro, the first defense witness, who was one of the colored men who met the deputies' automobile, said that some one in the car had commanded "hands up," and that he had compiled with this command. He was cross-examined by the solicitor on the subject of the alleged warnings he (Redd) had given Terrell about gun-toting, and alleged replies of Terrell that he would die with his weapon on him. The witness on cross-examination grew somewhat confused in his replies, which occasioned considerable laughter among a certain section of the spectators. Judge Jones remarked that some of those present seemed to think that the trial was a sort of comic opera and ordered the bailiffs to clear the whole right-hand side of the court on the farther side of the barrier. This was done and quiet reigned in the court room from then on.

J. F. Horton, a white man, witness for the defense could tell little more than seeing the flashes of the shots.

Terrell next took the stand on his own behalf. Said his home was in Elmore county and that he had been working for Andrew Taylor in Montgomery county. Questioned about the fatal scuffle with Mr. Wilson in the ditch, Terrell said that when they were in the ditch, the warden grabbed his pistol and it went off. Said he did not shoot the pistol and that the first shot took place after they had tumbled into the ditch. Said he had left his pistol in the ditch.

On cross examination by Solicitor Selbels, defendant said that he had never shot Mr. Wilson. He denied making the statement that Mr. Young said he had made. Also denied remarks about "dying with his gun in his hands." He was grilled extensively on the matter of the struggle in the ditch, and stuck to the story of his having the gun by the handle while Mr. Wilson had grabbed the weapon by the handle. "If he had it by the barrel and you had it by the handle, then who shot Mr. Wilson?" asked the prosecutor of the negro.

Mr. Selbels then asked Mr. Waller to come on the stand again. He asked if when Mr. Wilson was at the hospital he showed any powder burns on his hands and received an answer in the negative. The solicitor also asked Deputy Partin if there was any powder marks on Mr. Wilson's hands and Mr. Partin replied that he had noticed none. Mr. Partin also said that no pistol had been found that night in the ditch or elsewhere.

L. S. Smith, a young white man, introduced by the state as a rebuttal witness, said that Redd had told him the next day that Joe Terrell had said that he had fired the first shot in the difficulty of the night before. Mr. Smith stuck to this statement on cross-examination.

Attorney Brassell, opening the argument for the prosecution, stated that it was the duty of the juries to protect the law officers. "We have had far to many of our officers slain in Montgomery county," declared Mr. Brassell. Turning to the defendant, he thundered, "When you say you did not shoot George Wilson you swore falsely." "A life for a life is what the orphan children of Wilson want; it is what his widow wants," he continued in urging the jury to inflict the severest penalty known to the law.

Attorney Sankey, for he defense, reminded the jurors that he and his associate, Mr. Meador were not representing Terrell by their own choosing, but had been selected by the court to defend the negro. He said the fact that other officers had been killed should have no effect on the jury unless it was shown that the defendant was guilty. Two of the main arguments advanced by Mr. Sankey for his client were the claims that Terrell did not know that the men in the auto were officers of the law and that he was flustered and frightened by the sudden approach of the party in the car.

Attorney Meador, likewise said that he had been summoned by the state to defend Terrell. "If George Wilson's spirit were to speak to you today, he would say, 'Do justice,'" Mr. Meador admonished the jurors. He also laid stress on the fact that the defendant was confused and did not know what he was doing. He said that the evidence showed that the negro tried to get away. In conclusion, Mr. Meador maintained that the negro was resisting an attempt at unlawful arrest, and was guilty of nothing but manslaughter in the first degree and recommended that the jury find a verdict to that effect.

Mr. Selbels, in concluding the arguments for the prosecution said that the reason Terrell used his pistol was due to the fact that the defendant was "one of these biggoty negroes." "He wasn't going to take anything from any officers of the law as long as he had a gun in his possession, and he had made a boast that he would die with a weapon in his hands," continued the solicitor.

"No county in Alabama is blessed with a cleaner set of officials than those in Montgomery county," declared the solicitor, "and they demand protection at the hands of the juries."

"Terrell has no defense," the prosecutor concluded, "he throws himself on the mercy of the court, but the jury should remember that the faith-

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ful officers of the law are entitled to protection at its hands."

Judge Jones began his charge a little after 2 o'clock in the afternoon and the jury retired shortly after.

Alleged Slayer Of Young Girl Seeks Freedom

Says Blood on Leggins Came From Wound on Own Hand.

Birmingham, Ala., March 4.—(Special.)—Gorden Fincher, Talladega county farmer, charged with brutally slaying Maybelle McCullough, 16-year-old girl of Lincoln, Ala., will not plead insanity but will institute habeas corpus proceedings this week to secure his release on the grounds that he is innocent, according to an announcement today by his attorney. Fincher is being held in the Jefferson county jail here for safekeeping following his transfer from Talladega, where feeling against him was high.

Fincher is being represented by Fred Blackmon, Anniston attorney, who was in conference with Fincher here. Judge Marion Sims, of Anniston, will be associated with him in the defense.

"I am not guilty," Fincher asserted at the courthouse today after casting aside the queer demeanor that has marked him since his transfer here. "I have known Maybelle all her life and was in the searching party that found her body."

He has another explanation for the bloody leggings other than that he had been killing hogs as was first reported. He states that he was out sawing wood and accidentally cut his hands and the blood dropped on his legs.

The McCullough girl whom Fincher is charged with slaying was found in an old stump hole with her throat cut and her body bruised.

WHITE MAN CONFESSES CRIME LAID TO NEGRO.

(By The Associated Negro Press)

Montgomery, Ala., March 22.—A pardon for one Frank Anerton, a white convict, by Governor Brandon last week, brings to light the story of a white man who could not bear to see a Negro punished for a crime he did not commit. A Negro was to be tried for running a still about six months ago when Anerton stepped forward and confessed that he was the one wanted for the crime and that the Negro had nothing to do with the conduct of the still. He was given a prison sentence and had served six months when the Governor pardoned him.

CRENSHAW NEGRO IS GIVEN TRIAL DATE

Case Is Set For Present Term; Charged With Woman's Murder

The Advertiser Bureau
Greenville, Ala.
By Porter Martin

Jake Crenshaw, the negro who is being held in one of the most sensational criminal cases on the Butler county circuit court, was brought from Montgomery, where he is being kept in the Montgomery county jail, to Greenville yesterday and was arraigned in open court and his trial set for the third week of the present term of court that opens Monday.

The negro is charged with the brutal murder of Mrs. Foster Gafford, the wife of a Butler county farmer. Mrs. Gafford met her death in a most brutal and horrible manner at the hands of some fiend, and the negro Crenshaw is being held charged with the crime.

The negro has been given three former trials. The first two were reversed by the supreme court of Alabama and the last one resulted in a mistrial.

The public sentiment in Butler county is divided in the case, some people taking the view that the negro is guilty, while there are others who believe that the crime was committed by someone else.

FIGHTS 8 HOURS WITH MOB BEFORE THEY LYNCH HIM

Alabama Man Takes One With Him; They Pay His Funeral Expenses; Law Is Silent

Helena, Ala., May 11.—John King died with his boots on. The house here in which he had taken refuge from the mob, dynamited and set afire, he strode forth from and five bullets death into the hearts of three of the crowd that had burned him out.

Afterwards they [illegible]

King was employed by a local mining company. The timekeeper at the mine is the son of the mine owner. Money had been kept out of King's pay envelope for several pay days. He had gone to Allen Abney, the white timekeeper, for an explanation. The latter told him that there might be an error, but he did not have time to look into it.

Makes Timekeeper Mad

The last time King saw the timekeeper he told him he wanted him to hurry up and get it straight, that he wasn't going to work and be cheated. Abney is reported to have got angry because of King's "strong talk" and told another friend of his.

This white man trailed King to the latter's home and sought to break his way in. King took a shotgun and fired it into the white man's face. The victim played 'possum, lying on the ground and feigning death until King's back was turned, when he jumped up and ran away. The story was told to the elder Abney, who at one time was sheriff.

It did not take long for the news of the shooting to get around. A mob was formed which swooped down on King's house. He barricaded himself within doors and dared the would-be lynchers to come on. A pitched battle ensued. It began at 2:30 in the afternoon and lasted until 8:30 at night. There were 300 in in the crowd. The leader of the mob made a rush on the house and King shot him in the hand and hip.

Dynamite House

When night came the mob got a chance to put dynamite under the house and squirt gasoline from a hose. This was set fire to with a flying torch. King came out of the house with his gun going. The first white man to fall, mortally wounded, was Charlie Phillips. Four others were wounded before King was shot down.

The members of the mob declared he was the nerviest man they had ever seen. During the battle his wife and children took refuge with a neighbor.

The murderers asked King's friends if they would bury the body. The lynchers themselves bought the casket and furnished the money for burial expenses.

No effort is being made to punish any of the mob members.

OF LYNCHING PARTY

Helena, Ala., May 7.—Refusal of a time clerk to pay a colored miner on time, resulted in three men, including the time clerk and the miner, being killed and two others (both white) being wounded here yesterday afternoon and last night. After riot calls had been sent to the Shelby County Seat, at Columbiana, and to the sheriff's office in Birmingham, the house in which he barricaded himself was dynamited and fired by a posse of nearly 100 armed and white camp-followers.

The dead are: Allen Abernathy, white; Charlie Phillips, white; John King, colored. The wounded are: J. W. Roy, white, farmer and former Deputy Sheriff, and Colley S. Roy, also white.

According to witnesses, all white, King went to the office of the coal company and asked for his pay. After being told by Abernathy, the time clerk, that he would have to wait, he left without comment.

He returned in a few minutes, drew a pistol and shot Abernathy in the side and strolled back to his home and barricaded himself. His house is about 300 yards from the office.

Failing in their first rush on the house, the posse decided to dynamite and fire the house in an effort to dislodge the miner. King was slowly forced from the house by the heat

Selma Man Is Shot Down In Hotel; Negro Sought By Officers; Condition Serious

SELMA, ALA., May 15.—Archibald Green, well known man of Selma, son of Mrs. M. B. Green, was shot in an altercation with a negro bell boy, it is claimed, at the Albert Hotel tonight about eight o'clock. The ball entered the lower part of Mr. Green's stomach, ranging toward the left hip. He was rushed to the King Memorial Hospital, where he underwent an operation for the removal of the ball. His condition was considered very serious. The negro escaped immediately.

Reports from the hospital indicate that Mr. Green is in a serious condition. The larger bowel was perforated in two places, stated the operating surgeon.

Particulars that led up to the shooting are said to be as follows: After an altercation with the negro, Mr. Green followed him to the back entrance of the hotel, where, after some words had passed between them, Mr. Green struck the negro over the head with a pitcher which he held in his [illegible] and the negro retaliated by pulling a gun and firing at Mr. Green before anyone realized his intentions. The report of the shot drew a large crowd of people to the scene. In a few minutes a posse of officers and citizens headed by former Sheriff Stanfill and other officers, started at once in pursuit of the fleeing negro and were still scouring the vicinity of Selma for him at a late hour tonight.

Fully fifty men were out in various directions hunting for the negro and his chances for a complete getaway were considered small. He will be arrested in a few hours and placed behind the bars of the city jail to await development of Mr. Green's condition.

taking refuge beneath, but continued [illegible] killed.

TESTIMONY ENDS IN JAKE CRENSHAW CASE

Evidence Practically Same as in Previous Trials; Goes to Jury Today

Advertiser Bureau,
Greenville, Ala.
By Porter Martin.

The testimony in the Jake Crenshaw trial was all taken Wednesday night. The attorneys will argue the case Thursday and it will be in the hands of the jury during Thursday afternoon.

The case is one of the most interesting ever tried in Butler county. The heineousness of the crime, the deep mystery that has shrouded the killing from the beginning, and the unusual conditions that have arisen since the negro was first arrested coupled with the stand taken by a brother of the deceased woman adds perplexity to the case.

The evidence in the case is practically the same as has been brought out at the three former trials. It was reported that each side would introdue new evidence but nothing of any great consequence bearing on the case was brought out.

Defense Attempts Alibi.

The defense through various witnesses attempted to convince the jury that the negro had an alibi which has been brought out in all four trials given the negro. The state attempted to prove that Crenshaw committed the deed through its witness; Cammie Cheatham, a young negro girl, who swore that she saw Jake Crenshaw leave the Gafford home on the afternoon of the killing.

The testimony of Jesse Dickerson, a planter of the Gafford neighborhood, relative to the finding of some bloody rags at the home of Buel Powell by a searching party of which he was a member, shortly after the killing adds interest to the case. Buel Powell is the negro who was first arrested charged with the killing, but later released when Crenshaw was arrested.

The testimony of B. B. Chamberlain of Mobile, a special investigator of the case, sent here by the attorney general of the state, was used by the defense in an effort to contradict the testimony of the negress, Cammie Cheatham.

State Weaves Strong Net.

The state has wrapped a net around the defendant in an effort to prove that the negro went to the Gafford home on the afternoon of the killing for the purpose of getting something to eat, thinking that no one was at home, but was unexpectedly confronted with Mrs. Gafford who was partly dressed after having taken a bath and that he criminally assaulted her and then mutilated her body to cover his deed.

Lynchings—1923. Alabama. 1538 1538
Side Lights.

MADISON POSSE IS HOT AFTER NEGRO

Wanted for Criminal Assault; Fugitive Shoots Two White Men in Escaping

HUNTSVILLE, ALA., June 26.—Special to The Advertiser.—More determined than ever to wreak vengeance upon Risty Ford, Negro farm hand who is accused of attempting criminal assault upon the wife of his employer and wounding four men late yesterday, a posse of nearly two hundred armed men has taken a fresh trail close to the Tennessee line tonight. Members of the mob declare they intend following the negro until they catch him and then it is not believed he will ever live to get to jail.

For the first day the fact that he had attempted an assault upon a woman was not generally known. The crowd now knows all the facts and is determined to get Ford.

It was thought today that the negro had been surrounded in a swamp near Hazlegreen, but later he was seen making toward Tennessee. Bloodhounds were brought from Chattanooga today and put on the trail.

Austin Lassiter and Carroll Quick two of the four man who were shot yesterday by the negro, were brought to the city hospital here today, and it is declared there is small chance for their recovery.

RUNS AMUCK, SHOOTS 4 POSSES IN PURSUIT

Negro Insults White Woman and Starts Shooting.

HUNTSVILLE, Ala., June 25.—Risty Ford, a negro farm hand, ran amuck with a shotgun and rifle in the Sulphur Springs precinct in a remote section of Madison County late today, shot four men, three seriously, and slightly and is being hunted today by a posse of men and deputies who are [illegible]

Wounded victims of Ford's guns are Carroll Quick, shot through the body; S. Roberts Jacks, shot through leg; Austin Lasseter, shot through the body; Alvi Spelce, slightly wounded in arm. The cause of the trouble was an alleged insult by the negro to the wife of his employer. She screamed and a neighbor ran to her assistance. He was Lasseter and Ford shot him down as he came up. The negro then ran and met Alvi Spiece, whom he shot, saying he had been waiting for someone to start trouble so he could kill osme white men. As he fled he encountered Quick and Jacks, whom he shot, then disappeared into the [illegible] woods.

DOCTOR SLAIN AS FUGITIVE BY MISTAKE

Member of Posse Shot by Comrade, Who Thought Him Hunted Negro.

By International News Service.

HUNTSVILLE, Ala., July 3.—The week-old search for Risty Ford, Madison County farm laborer wanted for an attempted attack on a white woman and the shooting of four white men, has claimed the life of Dr. Barnard, a Tennessee physician, it was learned Tuesday. Barnard and Ed Reynolds were members of a posse seeking the negro.

The physician went home Monday for fresh clothes. He donned tan overalls which were similar to those worn by the negro who is hunted. Shotgun in hand, he walked toward Reynolds' home and his companion mistook him for the negro and fired as the doctor approached through the underbrush. Dr. Barnard died in a few minutes.

TENNESSEE POSSE CLOSING ON NEGRO

Madison County and State Offer Rewards for Ford, Wanted for Criminal Assault

HUNTSVILLE, ALA., June 27.—Special to The Advertiser.—A message from Fayetteville, Tennessee, laid today said [illegible] farm hand wanted in Madison County for attempted criminal assault upon a white woman and for the shooting of four white men, had [illegible] into Tennessee and was surrounded in a spot southeast of Fayetteville. His capture is said to be only a matter of hours.

The Madison county posse closed in on him from the south and a posse was organized in Fayetteville to help in the chase.

The state of Alabama and Madison county today posted rewards of $100 each for the capture of Ford.

POSSE MEMBER SHOT FOR NEGRO

Fatal Ending to Week's Hunt for Woman's Assailant in Madison County

HUNTSVILLE, ALA., July 3—Dr. Barnard, a physician of Lincoln county, Tenn., was shot to death late Monday by Ed Reynolds, at the latter's home near Coldwater. Both had been in the posse pursuing Risty Ford, Alabama negro who has been chased for a week for attacking a woman and shooting four white men.

Barnard, having changed his clothing to a khaki overall suit, went through the bushes to Reynolds' house, the latter thinking he was the negro fugitive who had been reported to be in the neighborhood.

200 ARMED MEN FOLLOWING TRAIL OF WANTED NEGRO

Huntsville, Ala., June 26.—Determined to capture Risty Ford, negro farm hand who is accused of attempting criminal assault upon the wife of his employer and wounding four white men late yesterday afternoon, a posse of 200 armed men is tonight following a fresh trail near the Tennessee state line.

It was thought at first that the negro had been surrounded in a swamp near Hazlegreen, but later he was said to be making his way toward Tennessee. Bloodhounds were brought from Chattanoonga today and put upon the trail.

Austin Lassiter and Carrol Quick, two of the four white men shot when they came to the rescue of the woman, were brought to a Huntsville hospital today, and were said by officials tonight to have only slight chances of recovery.

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NEGRO REMOVED TO BIRMINGHAM JAIL

Authorities Continue Inquiry Into Murder and Robbery of Shelby County Farmer

BIRMINGHAM, ALA., July 16—Jefferson and Shelby county officials were today continuing inquiry into the death of William Murphy, 55, who was slain two miles west of Columbiana Saturday night.

George Robinson, negro charged with having waylaid and killed Murphy, was arrested and brought to Birmingham by Sheriff J. J. Faulkner and Deputies C. J. Faulkner and G. M. Gardner, of Shelby county, because of high feeling in Columbiana.

Robinson denied the killing but was identified, officers say, by one of Murphy's sons with him when the tragedy occurred.

Murphy had been to Columbiana Saturday to sell some produce and purchase supplies. When he did not return to his home, three miles from town, at the usual hour, his family became alarmed and started out to hunt for him. In a secluded spot on the road his body was found. The pockets of his clothing were turned out. One bullet had proved fatal, striking him in the left eye. A gold watch and $50 in money were taken from the body.

Murphy is survived by his widow and four children.

REPORTED UNPUBLISHED LYNCHING OF 60 YEAR OLD NEGRO AT ADAMSVILLE, ALABAMAN

The Savannah Ga

A letter reached the National association for the Advancement of Colored People, 69 Fifth Avenue, New York City, reportin the unpublished lynching of a 60-year old Negro, named Will McBride, in the town of Adamsville, Alabama, on Thursday night, July 12, 1923. The report charges that the Negro was taken from his home by one thousand members of a masked organization and was found dead, his body terribly mangled, near a road.

It is charged that a crowd of school children had become frightened at meeting the old man on a country road, had told their teacher of their fright, and the old man was arrested charged with assault. In court the children are reported to have said they had been frightened merely by the sight of the old man and he was discharged. Feeling against him ran high and the lynching followed. Colored people who witnessed the affair have been told to leave and terrorized into silence, the report states.

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People has forwarded the substance for the report to the Governor of Alabama with a request for investigation and punishment of the lynchers if the facts are as stated.

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Charlotte N.C.

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AGED MAN WHO "SCARED" KIDS, IS LYNCHED

The Chicago Whip

NEW YORK CITY, Aug. 25.—A letter has reached New York City, reporting the unpublished lynching of a 60-year-old Negro, named Will McBride, in the town of Adamsville, Alabama, on Thursday night, July 12, 1923. The report charges that the Negro was taken from his home by one thousand members of a masked organization and was found dead, his body terribly mangled, near a road.

8-25-23

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MOB SHOOTS OWN MEMBER IN SEARCH FOR A NEGRO

Preston News Service.

HUNTSVILLE, Ala., July 11.—During a search for Risty Ford, a Negro alleged to have attacked a young white woman, Edward Reynolds a member of the mob posse, shot and instantly killed Dan Bernard, who it is said he had mistaken for Ford.

It is claimed that Bernard had changed clothes to a khaki overall suit, went through the bushes to Reynold's house, and Reynolds thinking he was the alleged fugitive who had been reported to have been in that neighborhood, fired on him killing him instantly.

REPORT UNPUBLISHED LYNCHING OF 60-YEAR-OLD NEGRO IN ALABAMA

The Michigan Chronicle

A letter has reached the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, 69 Fifth Avenue, New York City, reporting the unpublished lynching of a 60-year-old Negro named Will McBride, in the town of Adamsville, Alabama, on Thursday night, July 12, 1923. The report charges that the Negro was taken from his home by one thousand members of a masked organization and was found dead, his body terribly mangled, near a road.

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FIFTH TRIAL FOR NEGRO CRENSHAW

Montgomery Advertiser

Public Opinion Divided in Butler County as to Guilt of Prisoner

9-28-23

GREENVILLE, ALA., Sept. 27.—Special to The Advertiser.—Jake Crenshaw, the negro charged with brutally murdering Mrs. Foster Gafford in May of 1920, was arraigned before the Butler county grand jury today. The negro is being kept in the Montgomery county jail pending trial.

Feeling was hot against the negro immediately after the killing and he was convicted at a special term of court. Through a technical error he was granted a new trial.

The second trial resulted in conviction, but a third trial was granted by the supreme court. The third trial resulted in a mistrial as did a fourth.

The fifth trial will be given the negro during the present term of court. The case will not be called until either next week or the following week.

HUNTSVILLE, ALA.
JUL 22 1923

$1,000.00 REWARD FOR ARREST AND CONVICTION OF BEASTLY NEGRO

The Daily Times has received an urgent appeal from the peaceful and law abiding citizenship of the Sulphur Springs neighborhood to help bring about the apprehension and conviction of Risty Ford, the beastly negro who attempted an assult of Mrs. Alvie Spelce and shot up four or five men in that locality some weeks ago. It is a reflection on Madison county and its officers that this negro has not been caught and brought to justice. It is a further reflection on our people as a whole to permit a crime like this to have taken place and then sit down and do nothing. A posse of faithful farmers, friends of the insulted and the wounded have diligently sought the apprehension of the negro. Besides neglecting their crops and considerable expense, some $400.00 or more to relatives of the people attacked, blood hounds were put on the trail but today Risty Ford still roams at large. The officers of the law, the people as well, cannot afford to allow this brute to continue at large. And in order to bring this black scoundrel to justice it is proposed that the Governor of Alabama will be petitioned to increase his $100.00 reward to $400.00, as the law allows in such cases, and that the amount be augmented by popular subscription so as to bring the amount up to $1,000.00, this money to be deposited in bank subjte to the capture, delivery and conviction of the negro Ford. Failure on the part of the officers to apprehend this negro has taxed the patience of the people and they are now so aroused, and rightly so, that they propose to take definite hand in the 'man hunt' and propose to see to it that he is caught. We all owe it to the protection of organized society to see that this negro is apprehended and punished as the law directs.

The case has attracted great interest and will be closely followed to the fact that public sentiment divided as to the innocence of of the negro.

Lynchings — 1923
Side Lights on,

Arkansas.

1537

NEGRO KILLS OFFICER AND SHOOTS ANOTHER

Commercial Appeal

Black Draws Pistol and Fires on Escorts.

2-10-23

STUTTGART, Ark., Feb. 9.—Len McDonald instantly killed T. L. Teague, one of the officials of the county farm at Tucker, and seriously injured Deputy Sheriff J. A. Morris of this city by shooting him through the neck. The shooting occurred about noon today near Brummitt, about 10 miles west of here, while the officers were taking the negro prisoner to the county farm. The negro, who was handcuffed, escaped, and no trace of him has been found, although a large posse has been formed and the bloodhounds are on the way to the scene of the murder. The negro, in custody of the officers, was en route to the Tucker farm, where he was to begin a 90-day term for wife beating.

Mr. Morris was brought to his home in Stuttgart, where medical aid was rendered, and is not considered in a serious condition, although he is very weak from loss of blood. It is not known how McDaniels obtained the gun with which he did the shooting. He was searched when he was placed in jail here yesterday, but no gun was found. It is supposed it was slipped to him while he was in jail awaiting a hearing.

INCENDIARIES BURN BARN OF WEALTHY NEGRO PLANTER

Preston News Service

LITTLE ROCK, Ark., Jan. 3—The police department received a call early last Thursday morning from Jesse Branch, a wealthy Negro planter, living about 12 miles out on Little Rock, Hot Springs highway, requesting that bloodhounds be sent out to track persons who burned his barn. Branch said his barn was destroyed about 11 o'clock last Wednesday night, the origin of the fire being unknown. He said several other barns in that community had been destroyed within the past few months and that the fires were of mysterious origin. Branch lost all his feed, farming implements, horses, two cows and a new wagon.

LYNCHED WRONG MAN, ARKANSAS THINK.

Little Rock, Ark., Feb. 8.—(Crusader Service)—Evidence tending to prove that E. C. Gregor, the Harrison railroad man who was hanged by a mob last week, could not have been implicated as accused in the burning of bridges on the Missouri & North Arkansas Railroad, was obtained here tonight by the legislative committee investigating the strike situation. Unofficially members of the committee are said to believe that the Harrison mob seized and hanged the wrong man.

NEGRO STILL AT LARGE.

Commercial Appeal

Two Posses Seek Black Who Killed Arkansan.

STUTTGART, Ark., Feb. 13.—No trace has been found today of Len McDaniels, the negro who shot and killed T. L. League of England and seriously injured Deputy Sheriff A. J. Morris of Stuttgart last Friday. The shooting occurred near Brummitt. On account of the high water it was not thought the negro could escape without swimming, and this fact would be difficult to accomplish handcuffed.

2-14-23

A possee of about 50 men, headed by Sheriff James Pollard, has been guarding every possible outlet on this side, while a larger posse headed by Sheriff Martineau of Lonoke County is guarding the Lonoke side. A ridge runs from the vicinity in which the negro was last seen, toward Carlisle, where McDaniels has numerous relatives, and it is believed that the negro has made his way in that direction or will soon put in his appearance in that section. Morris continues to improve and unless some complications arise a rapid recovery is expected.

NEGRO KILLS WHITE BOY

Montgomery Advertiser

3/26/1923

Black Caddie Wields Golf Club With Deadly Effect

(Associated Press)

FORT SMITH, ARK., March 25.—Following a quarrel at the Country Club here today, Willie Jones, aged 19, a negro caddie struck Arvin Skelton, an eighteen year old white caddie on the head with a golf club, killing him instantly. Extra guards were placed around the jail tonight to safeguard Jones.

Montgomery Ala.

NEGRO KNIFE WIELDER SOUGHT AFTER ATTACK

Commercial Appeal, Memphis, Tenn.

Stabs Man, But Attack on Girl Fails.

3/14/23

LITTLE ROCK, Ark., March 13.—Several posses of officers are scouring the country adjacent to Little Rock for a negro who attacked and stabbed Sidney H. Ford, Missouri Pacific frieght clerk, and kidnaped a young woman, whom he was escorting and carried her into the woods this afternoon on the Mablevale Road, near this city. Being frightened by passing automobiles, the negro left the girl and disappeared in the woods. Attendants at the hospitals this evening said that the condition of Ford was serious. His body and arms had been severely lacerated by the knife wielded by the negro.

The scene of the attack is a thickly wooded area in the vicinity of Rock Creek, which crosses the Mablevale Road about a half-mile off the Nineteenth Street Pike. There is a heavy growth of underbrush and thickets along both sides of the creek, making a clear vision from the Mablevale Road practically impossible.

The young woman returned to the scene later with deputies from the sheriff's office to assist in the search and aid the officers in identifying her assailant.

ARKANSAS MOB THREATENS LIFE OF N. Y. BISHOP

Rt. Rev. P. A. Wallace, of A. M. E. Zion Church Struck With Poker and Chair

LOCKED IN MAYOR'S OFFICE

Threatening Mob Declared He 'Sassed' 20-Year-Old White Station Porter

Warren, Ark., May 30 (K. C. Call News Service)—Is it possible for a venerable bishop to "sass" a 20-year-old youth?

Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

5-31-23

This was the claim of a white mob, which took Bishop P. A. Wallace from his stopping place, locked him up in the office of the Mayor, threatened him with gun and rope and struck him with a chair until town officials rescued him.

Bishop Wallace, whose home is in Brooklyn, N. Y., was on his way to Walters University here to deliver the baccalaureate sermon. Arriving in the station during the rain, he took shelter inside awaiting the auto to take him to the school grounds.

At this point the 20-year-old white station porter, announced that it was time to close the station and "you dam niggers take your baggage and get out." Bishop Wallace remonstrated with the youth and in reply received two blows from a stove poker and threats to "get you tonight."

Later in the evening the bishop was called from the house by an auto load of men looking for the "nigger who had an argument with a white man at the station." Bishop Wallace was locked up in the Mayor's office, and a man armed with a revolver placed over him. Abused, threatened, cursed and hit by a chair in the hands of this guard, the prelate was finally rescued by school authorities who had gotten the mayor out of bed.

Authorities refused to prosecute the porter or the members of the mob, on the ground that no Arkansas jury would believe the word of a black man against a white, and if Bishop Wallace came to court with any charges, he would probably be lynched.

Grady Arkansas May 30, 1800 colored men were disappointed here when a look for train failed to show up to carry them into Northern industrial fields.

NEGRO HOLDS POSSE AT BAY MORE THAN HOUR

Barricaded in Store at Earle, Uses Shotguns.

WOUNDED IN ESCAPING

None of Posse Was Injured Although Large Number of Shots Were Fired at Very Close Range.

Commercial Appeal

EARLE, Ark., July 5.—Barricaded in the store of the Earle Supply Company and armed with several shotguns, John Williams, negro, held more than a dozen men at bay for over an hour early this morning, but was shot down by Sheriff Claude Cooper as he was making an escape through the back door.

It was a miracle why several members of the posse guarding the building were not shot, for the negro emptied several volleys through the back and side doors while a battery of automobile headlights were played on the windows and doors of the building.

The negro was discovered in the building about 1 o'clock this morning by S. E. Hyde, night marshal. Saul Stein was called and watched the building while help was summoned. S. S. Morrison, head of the company, was notified, and he and Frank Dulaney, the day marshal, George Spencer, W. L. Hume and Sheriff Cooper arrived on the scene. Practically every member of the posse was armed with a shotgun. Automobiles were placed where it would be impossible for the negro to escape without being seen.

Posse Forced to Retreat.

Several shots were fired into the building which were answered from within by the negro, who forced the posse in front of the building to retreat when five shots were fired into the crowd. The negro then changed his line of attack, and going to the rear of the building fired a load of shot which lodged in the top of the Morrison automobile. A number of shots were fired through a side window not far from where the sheriff was stationed.

Officers called to the negro to come out, telling him that he would not be hurt, but no reply was received. Shortly afterwards the negro, while slipping out the back door was shot down by Sheriff Cooper. A load of shot took effect in the legs just above the knee. The negro fell, begging the officer not to shoot again, as he would give up.

Negro Dresses a la Rodolph And Mob Reproves Pants

EL DORADO, Ark., July 7.—A near riot of humorous rather than of serious character occurred in Court Square last night when a negro, all dressed up but with no place to go," came along Jefferson Street wearing a pair of toreador trousers, a la Rudolph Valentino.

Perhaps the light fit at the hips and the bell cut bottoms would not have attracted attention of the loungers on the park benches in the square had not the Ethiopian Beau Brummell made the mistake of ostentatiously ornamenting the flares at the bottom with spangles. It was not the sartorial mode that offended the eye so much as the jingling spangles offended the musical ear of the loungers, but when the sound of the jingling sequins hit their ears there was concerted action against the sartorial array.

When the hilarious mob got through with the negro he hadn't been harmed in the least, but he was minus the pants.

THREE POSSES SEARCH FOR ARKANSAS NEGRO

Memphis Commercial Appeal

11-12-23

Fatally Wounded Son of Wealthy Planter Who Raided Place.

OSCEOLA, ARK., Nov. 11.—Three posses are searching tonight for Hilliard, a negro who last night shot and fatally wounded George Edrington, Jr., aged 20, son of a wealthy planter when the youth entered the negro's home and shouted: "I've come to raid this place."

A number of negroes who were said to be gambling in Hilliard's home, scattered, but a woman carried the news of the shooting to Edrington's home. The youth died this morning.

Hilliard escaped in an automobile, going in the direction of Memphis.

Edrington stopped at the negro's house while on his way to visit a friend, Joe Dillahunty, on whose plantation Hilliard was employed.

POSSES SEARCHING FOR NEGRO BRUTE

Bloodhounds Could Not Be Used To Chase Man Who Assaulted Woman Saturday

LITTLE ROCK, ARK., Nov. 24.—Posses still were searching tonight for an unidentified negro who shortly before noon today attacked a white woman, aged 55, who lived in a tent, within a stone's throw of the walls of the state penitentiary on the outskirts of town, and escaped.

Bloodhounds taken to the scene immediately after the alarm was given were unable to pick up the trail because heavy rains had washed the vicinity before police could reach the scene and obliterated scents. The victim was able to give a good description of the negro, who, she told police, had called at the tent ysterday and asked her if she had seen some cows for which he said he was looking.

Late tonight police arrested a suspect who had dried blood on his clothes which he could not explain satisfactorily and held him in jail. Meanwhile the woman disappeared from a hospital where she had been taken after the attack, and police could not find her to establish an identification.

HUNTING TWO NEGROES POSSE AND DOGS OUT

Slayers of Andrew J. Jones at Wrightville Sought.

LITTLE ROCK, Ark., Dec. 14.—Sheriff Adkins and several deputies, aided by bloodhounds, were scouring the country adjacent to Wrightsville today, seeking the two negroes who last night robbed and killed Andrew J. Jones, proprietor of a grocery store at that place. Officers stated that they have discovered clews which will lead to the arrest of the negroes. The dead man is survived by his widow, four sons, Roscoe, Asa, Jeff and Andrew Jones; two daughters, Misses Lillian and Lucille Jones, all of Wrightsville; two sisters, Mrs. F. J. Clark and Mrs. Laura Hughes; also a brother, Hardy, all of Little Rock.

NEGRO BANDITS KILL ONE

After Murdering Owner Robbers Loot Store and Escape

LITTLE ROCK, Ark., Dec. 13.—Two negro bandits tonight shot and killed Andrew J. Jones, 50, a merchant of Wrightsville, twelve miles south of this city, looted the store and made their escape, according to reports received by the sheriff's office here.

Jones' 12 year old son witnessed the killing, according to the report. He told officers that his father was killed when he offered resistance to the robbers.

Officers have been sent from here to aid a posse of citizens which was reported to be forming at Wrightsville in a search for the two negroes.

NEGRO BANDITS SLAY ARKANSAS MERCHANT

Posse Pursues Two Who Then Looted Store

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BISHOP IS BEATEN AND THROWN INTO ARKANSAS JAIL

High Churchman Victim of South's Lawlessness

WARREN, Ark., June 16.—Bishop Wallace, whose home is in Brooklyn, N. Y., was on his way to Walters, University here to deliver the baccalaureate sermon. Arriving in the station awaiting the train he took shelter inside awaiting the auto to take him to the school grounds.

At this point the 20-year-old white station porter announced it was time to close the station and "you damn niggers get your baggage and get out." Bishop Wallace remonstrated with the youth and in reply received two blows from a stove poker and threats to "get you tonight."

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Lynchings — 1923
Side Lights

California.

1521

BROOKLYN N Y CITIZEN
FEBRUARY 3, 1923

CONFESSION OF ONE NEGRO HALTS LYNCHING OF ANOTHER BY MOB

SAN BERNARDINO, Cal., Feb. 3. —Just as a mob was starting for the jail at Colton, near here, to lynch a negro suspected of robing a white woman, word came that another negro had confessed the deed.

John H. Brown is the man now accused. He was shot and wounded, and made his alleged confession, as the crowd's march to the jail got under way.

The mob dispersed.

Lynchings—1923
Side Lights.

Florida.

1523

Innocent Man Taken From Train by Alleged Officers

Held in Waldo, Fla., Jail From 3:30 A. M. to 8 P. M.,---Mob Takes Him and Is About To Throw Rope Over Limb

ANOTHER PORTER HAD ARGUED WITH WHITE WOMAN AND BLAIR WAS SEIZED

New York Age

Was Enroute to New York and Pullman Conductor Protested Arrest, But Southern White Train Conductor Turned Porter Over to Alleged Officers.

2-3-23

"Mistaken identity" is what it would be called, but George Blair, a Pullman porter, living at 132 West 139th street, New York City, will hardly forget the experience that carried him to within a hairsbreadth of crossing the invisible line between life and death.

Blair has only been in the Pullman service about three weeks, and his trips have not been many. Whether he continues in the service or not, it is hardly probable that he will voluntarily go again into the State of Florida, for it was in the "Land of Flowers," residents of which State have recently injected a malodorous scent into the perfume-suggesting name, that Blair had the most terrifying and nerve-racking experience of his life.

Taken from his car by an armed posse, thrown into jail at Waldo, Fla., from 3:30 in the morning until 8 o'clock at night without food or water, then taken by a mob, blindfolded, beaten, a rope put around his neck, it was only the timely arrival of the sheriff of Alachua county, who informed the mob that Blair was not the man wanted, that saved the colored man's life. Then followed a three-mile walk to the nearest town, where a train was boarded for Jacksonville. Here he obtained temporary relief and succor for the wounds he had received and illtreatment to which he had been subjected.

From Jacksonville, Blair was "deadheaded" up to Richmond, Va., from which city a telegram was sent to the New York Pullman Company office for transportation to New York. Blair reached home on Saturday, January 27, worn, torn and shaken, and told a graphic story of his gruesome experience.

Another Porter Was Involved.

According to Blair's tale, there is every reason to believe that while his life was saved, some other porter was not so fortunate. It was an incident in which an employe of the Pullman Company assigned to another car was concerned that led to the apprehension of Blair, and he believes that this other man was seized and lynched, news of which evidently reached the sheriff responsible for Blair's last-minute release from the mob which held him.

Talking to representative of The New York Age. Blair told the following story of the affair, including an account of what he believes to have been the incident leading up to his being eaken from his car and thrown into jail.

Blair's car, for New York, and another Pullman car, routed to Cincinnati, were on a siding at Plant City, Hillsborough county, Fla., on the night of January 23. A party of white people, two women and a man, came up to Blair's car and made inquiry concerning passage to a certain town in Georgia. The women were accompanying the body of a relative to this Georgia town for burial and the man with them was an undertaker. Blair politely informed them that his car did not pass through the town named, but that the other car, enroute to Cincinnati, would take them there.

Argument with Woman.

Going to this car, the party of would-be travelers, according to Blair, who escorted them, demanded that they be given each a lower berth. This request the porter declared he was unable to comply with, since the parties had not procured railroad tickets, and there was no way by which he, the porter, could tell as to what reservations had previously been made for his car. The whites were insistent, however, and when Blair left to return to his own car, one of the women was engaged in a wordy argument with the Cincinnati porter.

A short while after he had returned to his car, Blair saw the two white women and white man hurrying away from the Cincinnati car. Within a short period of time, the train for which the Cincinnati car was being held, came in and the Pullman carrying the porter who had had the argument with the white women was taken away on its journey toward the North.

It was fully an hour and a half later, near midnight, when the train for which Blair's car had been waiting, came along, and started him on his trip. Three hours later, when his train had traversed the goodly stretch of Florida land that lay between Plant City in the south and Waldo in the north, a posse of six alleged officers boarded the train at the latter point and demanded of the conductor that the Pullman porter be turned over to them, as he was charged with assaulting two white women at Plant City.

The colored man protested his innocence and pointed out that his car had not left Plant City until an hour and a half after the alleged occurrence, and the fact that he had not been disturbed before leaving that point in itself indicated his innocence. But his pleas were in vain.

Pullman Conductor Protested.

And the protests of the Pullman conductor were also in vain. That official demanded in strong terms that the porter be not interferred with, but the Seaboard Air Line train conductor, himself a southern white man, sided with the armed crowd and turned Blair over to the alleged officers. The unfortunate fellow was taken then to the Waldo jail, an ill-kept, ramshackle, hut-like structure, where he was kept all day without either food or water.

Then, about 8 o'clock that night, the mob got in its work. Breaking into the jail, an easy job, the crowd seized Blair and hustled him out of town for the purpose of stringing him up. As told above, he was beaten, blindfolded, and the rope brought into play for the carrying out of the mob's sinister idea of administering justice. It was the Florida white man's idea of justice, however, as administered by a mob of hundreds to a lone, unarmed, defenceless Negro, thousands of miles away from home and friends.

In some way, the sheriff of Alachua county became aware of Blair's innocence, and the latter believes that information came to the sheriff that the other porter had been apprehended at some point on his route either in Florida or Georgia. However that may be, the sheriff convinced the mob that their victim was not the man they thought he was and so secured his release. It is not chronicled, however, that any of the violators of the law, engaged in the consummation of a criminal act, were apprehended or even threatened with arrest. The Aluchua county official evidently thought that he was winning a halo of glory and honor by rescuing the innocent Negro. And his thought is not to be disputed, either, for he might much more easily have let the fellow swing.

Relieved of Watch and Money.

While in the Waldo jail, Blair had been relieved of his watch and all of his money, and when released by the mob he was penniless. The would-be lynchers had taken him three miles out in the country, and this distance he had to make on foot. In part atonement for the indignities and tortures undergone, some member of the mob gave Blair $2.50 for railroad fare to Jacksonville and an extra 50 cents for something to eat. Grateful that his life had been spared, the porter made his way to the station where finally a train was boarded for Jacksonville, thence on back to New York.

Blair vows that even though he stays in the Pullman service all the rest of his life, his southern trips must end at Washington. He came to New York several years ago from Chicago and is unmarried.

Upon reaching New York after his Florida experience, he was examined by the company's physician and a full report of the case has been sent to the Chicago headquarters. It is thought that the Pullman Company will endeavor to have action taken against the train conductor responsible for turning Blair over to the alleged officers, and Blair has retained an attorney who has been instructed to file suit against the Seaboard Air Line R. R., on whose line the porter was travelling at the time.

Identity of the other porter has not been disclosed, as Blair had not met him before and had only a few moments contact with him at Plant City.

Race Orchestra In Florida Town Hides from Mob

Musicians Forced to Stay in Theater All Night, While "King Lynch" Rules.

On June 6, while a local mob decided to relieve the sheriff of his duties in connection with the apprehension and punishment of an unknown murderer in West Palm Beach, Florida, Joe Jones and his "Syncopated Syncopators" as a matter of precaution remained in the Lyric theater all night rather than venture on the streets to go to their respective stopping places. Local officers prevented any general hostilities toward Negroes by ordering all public places closed and directing the Negroes to remain off the streets. A Negro suspect was lynched and several whipped; but none of the performers were molested. They spent a very unpleasant night, however.

The writer informs us that rain has played havoc with the business for them in Florida, and that the show was jumped from Palm Beach to get into a more favorable territory.

Jack Cooper, one of Cooper and Lamars' Players, is the house manager, and Estelle Patton has charge of th emusic. They and the others of the house staff are commended as being above par in efficiency. Their work was especially impressive since the writer complains that it was just the opposite at the previous stand, in Miami. He makes more than casual mention of the murderous tendencies and abilities of the mosquitoes prevalent in Florida.

MOB KEEPS PLAYERS IN THEATRE 12 HRS.

Joe Jones' Syncopators Company Feared Palm Beach Mob That Lynched Murder Suspect

By J. A. Jackson

On June Sixth, when a local mob decided to relieve the sheriff of his duties in connection with the apprehension and punishment of an unknown murderer in West Palm Beach, Florida, Joe Jones, and his "Syncopators" as a matter of precaution remained in the Lyric Theater all night, rather than venture on the streets to go to their respective sleeping places.

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Body of Suspect In Shooting Case Found Riddled

Miami, Fla., June 16.—The body of a negro believed to be Roy Gaines, suspected of being involved in the slaying yesterday afternoon of Marshal Charles A. Grant, at Homestead, was found this morning half a mile south of Homestead and within 25 feet of the highway. It was covered with gunshot wounds and partially hidden in a pot hole. This makes the third death in the slaying, William "Grey Eye" Simmons, a negro, having been shot to death by a posse within an hour after it was learned the marshal had been killed. Before his death, Simmons is alleged to have told the posse that Gaines fired the shots that killed the marshal. The shooting of the marshal occurred in a rooming house in the negro section of Homestead.

Bryant and his 14-year-old son had gone to the negro house on a liquor raid and when Bryant mounted to the second floor was shot by Simmons, according to the story told by other negroes. The negro Simmons escaped, but was captured several miles from the scene of the shooting, brought back, bound to a tree and his body riddled with bullets. He is said to have confessed to the shooting before he was killed.

Masked Men Overpower Sheriff, Take Prisoner Away in Automobile

Eaugallie, Fla., August 19.—Five masked and robed men overpowered Deputy Sheriff Segui on the street here about 9:30 o'clock tonight, took from him the keys to the jail and removed G. A. Davis, held on a charge of non-support, placed him in an automobile and drove away. Late tonight the kidnappers had not been located and no trace of Davis had been found.

Davis came here from Miami, where he had been employed in a hotel. He had conducted a barber shop and pressing club business here since last March. He was arrested today.

SHERIFF OVERPOWERED

Masked Men Take Keys to Jail and Release Prisoner

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ASK FLORIDA GOVERNOR TO INVESTIGATE KIDNAPPING

NEW YORK, Oct. 12—Kidnapping and the subsequent disappearance of a reputable colored citizen of Miami, Fla., on the night of June 27 of this year, is reported to Governor Carry Hardee of Florida in a letter sent today by the N. A. A. C. P. asking him to investigate. The kidnapped man, who has not been heard from since his disappearance, Stone Isaac, by name, is said to have been called for by two men representing themselves as officers of the law. The letter to the governor asked that he investigate the affair, stating that reports showed the possibility of foul play.

Lynchings - 1923
Side Lights.

France.

1522

WATSON'S CHARGE OF HANGINGS ARE HELD UNFOUNDED

Montgomery Advertiser

Sensational Chapter in Senate History Ends With Brief Report

3-2-23

(Associated Press.)

WASHINGTON, March 1.—The sensational chapter of senate history revolving around a charge by the late Senator Watson, democrat, Georgia, that American soldiers were executed without trial in France, was closed today when the committee appointed to investigate, reported unanimously that it had found the charge unfounded.

The committee's findings were embodied in one of the briefest reports ever submitted by an investigating body. It was scarcely a dozen inches in length. It stated merely in pursuance with the order of the senate the committee had held hearings and inquired into the allegations of Senator Watson and had determined that they were not sustained by the testimony.

All of the committee members. Senators Brandegee, Connecticut; Willis, Ohio, and Ernst, Kentucky, republicans, and Overman, North Carolina, and Shields, Tennessee, democrats, signed the report. In a special report, Senator Ernst also declared unfounded the charge which came before the committee durings its hearings that Major H. L. Opie, of Virginia, had shot his orderly.

Senator Watson's original charges were made in a series of speeches in November, 1921, during which he startled the country by submitting photographs which he said portrayed gallows on which American soldiers had been hanged without legal process. He also exhibited letters he said he had received from former service men declaring that illegal hangings and shootings had taken place while the army was in France.

Many sensational incidents featured the committee hearings and high army officers and war department officials were called to testify.

Chairman Brandegee and Senator Shields, in oral statements to the senate, concurred in the special report of Senator Ernst regarding the case of Major Opie.

Lynchings - 1923
Side Lights

Georgia

1535

Father of Riot Victim Asks Aid Of Legislature

Atlanta Constitution

Seeks Passage of Special Act to Compensate for Son's Death.

11/14/23 Constitution

L. C. Davis, of Summerville, N. J., wants the Georgia legislature to pass a special act providing compensation for the death of his son, which occurred in May, 1921, while, says Mr. Davis, he was acting on a sheriff's posse during a fight with negroes in Dooly county, Georgia.

Mr. Davis called on Governor Hardwick Saturday and discussed the matter with him. Later in the day he left for Dooly county and will take up the question with officials there and with the representatives from that county to the state legislature.

The situation arises out of the fact that the workmen's compensation law of the state does not apply to elective offices. At the time of his death young Davis was acting on a sheriff's posse and therefore does not come under the law, the sheriff's office, of course, being elective.

Mr. Davis stated yesterday that his son, who was a veteran of the American expeditionary forces of the world war, had been in Arcadia, Fla., for a year, training to be an army aviator. He had passed his examinations as a cadet, and was on his way home to New Jersey when he stopped over in Byromville, in Dooly county. While there, trouble developed with some negroes over the payment of taxes and the sheriff and a posse, of which Davis was a member, approached a house in which a score or more of negroes had barricaded themselves.

In the gun battle which ensued, young Davis received wounds from which he died. Two negroes were killed and four wounded, the others being put under arrest.

The trouble occurred on May 17, 1921, and Davis died a few days later.

The father has corresponded with Georgia state officials, including the governor, and is now seeking special action by the legislature as compensation for his son's death. He came to Georgia at this time, being under the impression that the legislature convened in January but believes that he will be able to accomplish the greater part of his mission at this time.

SHOT BY BANDIT, GILMORE IS DEAD

Atlanta Constitution

Reward Offered for Capture of Atlanta Confederate of Negro Who Shot Him and Was Killed.

2-5-23

Sparta, Ga., February 4.—(Special.)—State-wide search began today for Clinton Champion, 30, Atlanta negro, alleged confederate of George Butts, negro, who was shot to death in Hancock county Saturday morning after he had shot and fatally wounded Lindsey B. Gilmore, white, member of a posse that was pursuing them. Gilmore died late Saturday night. Champion and Butts were accused of holding up and robbing two Hancock county farmers and general store keepers.

Sheriff J. M. Jackson, of Hancock county, asked The Constitution to announce that a reward of $50 would be paid for the arrest of Champion. The fugitive is coal black and has two gold teeth.

The two negroes robbed George Underwood at 8 o'clock Saturday morning. Sheriff Jackson told The Constitution representative, and a posse formed to catch them. Track dogs were ordered from the state farm at Milledgeville and came, in charge of a negro convict, the sheriff said.

Surrounded in Swamp.

The fugitives were surrounded in Town creek swamp and a posse of 50 to 75 men thrown around the swamp. Butts attempted to make a break through the part of the surrounding line held by Gilmore. An exchange of shots followed in which Gilmore fell fatally wounded, a full load of buckshot in his abdomen. The negro convict who was in charge of the track hounds, attracted by the firing, came on the scene in time to shoot and kill Butts, according to Sheriff Jackson's statement to The Constitution Sunday night.

During the excitement occasioned by the shooting of Butts and Gilmore, the negro Champion made a break through the surrounding line and succeeded in escaping.

CORONER DECIDES ON BUTTS CASE.

Milledgeville, Ga., February 4.—Lindsay Gilmore, shot by one of two negroes who were being pursued by a posse of citizens yesterday, died early this morning at Devereaux, Ga., where he was taken for surgical treatment.

A coroner's jury held an inquest today over the body of a negro killed by the posse, in Baldwin county, following the shooting of Gilmore, and returned a verdict that the negro came to his death while resisting arrest. The negro was identified as George Butts, who had been reared near Carrs station. Gilmore informed the officers, it was brought out at the inquest, that Butts was the one who shot him.

Statements made last night that Butts' partner in a series of robberies of stores along the Baldwin-Hancock county line Friday night, also had been put to death in Hancock county, were denied today when the body could not be found. The hunt for the other negro was resumed today, the track dogs from the state prison farm being used.

Gilmore was married and leaves a wife and small child.

CONVICT WHITE MAN FOR KILLING NEGRO

Montgomery Advertiser

Jury Returns Voluntary Manslaughter Verdict

(Associated Press)

SYLVANIA, GA., Feb. 23.—Joe Jenkins, white man, was found guilty of voluntary manslaughter by a jury here tonight, in connection with the killing of "Coz" Jones, an aged negro last December. The jury recommended a sentence of one to three years, which was imposed by the court immediately. The jury was out three hours. 2-24-23

Jenkins and Mims Nunnally, who was with him at the time of the tragedy, were accused of taking the old negro's life because he was unable to get their automobile out of a ditch near Millhaven. The old man was shot through the head and his throat cut.

Today Jenkins and Nunnally testified that Jones was advancing on Jenkins with a knife when the shot was fired.

JENKINS IS TRIED ON MURDER CHARGE FOR NEGRO'S DEATH

Atlanta Constitution

Sylvania, Ga., February 22.—Joe Jenkins, a young man, went on trial here this afternoon at 3 o'clock charged with the murder of "Coz" Jones, an aged negro, killed near here last December. 2-23-23

It is stated that Jenkins, who was apprehended several weeks later in Colorado and brought back to stand trial, will plead self-defense.

The crime with which Jenkins is charged invoked the indignation of both races around Sylvania. The aged negro, well known throughout the countryside, was killed when he refused to aid in getting Jenkins' car out of the mud, according to eye-witnesses.

Jenkins, however, claims that the negro attempted to cut him with a knife. He says it was the negro's knife which he used to cut Jones' head from his body, after shooting him.

The trial is attracting considerable attention in Sylvania, being one of few cases in which a white man was brought back to stand trial for the slaying of a negro in this vicinity. It probably will take all of tomorrow to hear the case.

MAN ARRESTED IN DENVER FOR MURDER OF GEORGIA NEGRO.

Dallas Express
Dallas Texas

Atlanta, Ga., Feb. 1.—According to advices received Friday by Governor Hardwick, Joe Jenkins, a white man charged with the murder of Andrew Jones, an aged ex-slave, in Screven County, has been arrested near Denver, Col. 2-3-23

Requisition papers were issued to Sheriff B. T. Mallard, of Bulloch County, who left Friday evening to bring back the prisoner. Judge Strange has ordered that when Jenkins is brought back to Georgia he be confined in the Bolloch County jail at Statesboro, on account of the high state of feeling in Screven County.

The crime with which Jenkins charged was one of the most bru in the history of South Geor Jones, a former slave, was calle from his cabin late at night by two white men and ordered to get their automobile out of the mud where it had stuck. The aged man was sick and feeble and was unable to do this.

Jenkins is said tot have become enraged at this failure and to have slain the old man in unusually brutal manner. He was shot through the head from behind, his throat was slashed and body thrown into a nearby open ditch. The two white men then escaped, leaving their car still in the mud.

A few days later Nims Nunnally surrendered, declaring he was one of the two men, but charging Jenkins with the crime, saying that he was seated in the automobile at the time. This statement is corroborated by several women, said to have been eye witnesses of the affair.

Rewards offered for Jenkins' capture total $1,500. Governor Hardwick offered $250, the sheriff of Screven County $250, John A. Manget, of Atlanta, $500, and Mills B. Lane, of Savannah, $500.

CONVICT JENKINS OF KILLING NEGRO

Atlanta Constitution

Gets One to Three Years Following Voluntary

Manslaughter Verdict for Ex-Slave's Death.

2-24-23

Sylvania, Ga., February 23.—Joe Jenkins, charged with slaying of Cuz Jones, an aged negro ex-slave, near here last December, was tonight found guilty of voluntary manslaughter and sentenced to one to three years in the penitentiary. The jury deliberated four hours.

According to the evidence introduced at the trial, Jenkins' automobile broke down at Millhaven, and he went to a negro house to obtain aid.

It was testified that Jones, who was forced to go with Jenkins, was beaten over the head with a pistol wielded by the white man. Then a pistol shot was heard.

A short time later the body of Jones was found, a bullet through the skull and the head nearly severed from the body. Prominent white people of this community insisted upon a rigid investigation. Jenkins was located in Colorado and brought back for trial. Jones was an ante-bellum negro.

Completion of testimony, the statement by the defendant and the statement by Mims Nunnally, in the car with Jenkins at the time of the slaying, featured the morning session of the unusual trial here today.

The evidence was completed at 1:45 o'clock this afternoon. Judge H. B. Strange allowed counsel for both sides two and one-half hours each to argue the case.

The defendant's statement was spoken in a very low tone and could hardly be heard beyond the jury box. He attributed the killing to the alleged insolent manner characteristic of the negro and declared that the fight was started after Jones had cursed him.

"When my car stuck in the mud, I called upon Jones for help," the defendant stated. "While we were trying to get the car out, he cursed me. When I started to reply, he drew a knife and cut at me several times—this was before I ever pulled a pistol. I then shot him, but he kept on fighting. We fell in a ditch, and he cut me across the arm." Jenkins' coat sleeve was offered in evidence at this junction.

Nunnally, who was with Jenkins during the fight, confirmed Jenkins statement in the main. He stated that Jones cursed Jenkins, and that this started the fight.

Several witnesses were put on the stand by the defense this morning to prove the good character of the defendant. The defense also introduced several witnesses who swore that the negro who was slain was ill tempered and generally disliked.

The witnesses heard yesterday in the main testified that Jenkins, having gotten his car stuck in the mud, called upon Jones' daughter to help him get out and that Jones' offered to help him for a dollar. Shortly after that a shot was heard and the old negro fell.

Mims Nunnally, in the car with Jenkins, and who told the complete story of how the old negro was killed, will not be tried at this term of court. He is held as an accomplice to the murder.

White Man Tried for Slaying Aged Negro

SYLVANIA, Ga., Feb. 22.—Joe Jenkins, young white man, who is being held for the murder of Cuz Jones, aged negro, near Millhaven, in this county, December 31, who was captured in Denver, Col., several weeks later, was to go on trial in Superior Court here Thursday, with Judge P. B. Strange presiding.

The defendant, it is said, will claim self-defense as his motive for the crime, and it is probable that the trial will run throughout the day.

The defense, it is understood, will be represented by P. A. Boykin and E. K. Overstreet, while Solicitor A. H. Anderson will be assisted in the prosecution by Judge A. B. Lovett, of Savannah.

POSSE SEEKS NEGRO

Georgians Hunting for Slayer of Town Marshal at Iron City

IRON CITY, GEORGIA, June 3—Divided into three groups, a large posse tonight was scouring the country round about here in an effort to apprehend Silas Paramore, negro, who shot and killed I. J. Williams, local marshal when the latter attempted to arrest Baramore this morning.

Paramore, it is alleged, asked Williams to allow him to remove the switch key from his car. The officer walked to the automobile with the negro, who, reaching into the side pocket, flashed a revolver on the officer, and began to fire. The officer, witnesses say, grappled with Paramore and was killed by a shot in the back which entered his heart. Williams leaves a wife and four children.

POSSES HUNT NEGRO ATTACKER OF WOMAN

Widow Found Unconscious By Son in Georgia Town

Wellston, Ga., July 4.—Posses are hunting a negro who late today attacked one of the most prominent women of Wellston, Houston County. The woman, a widow, was found unconscious tonight in her home by her son.

She had returned home by train and was attacked by the negro, who was hiding inside the house.

Sheriff T. S. Chapman and a number of deputies from Houston County are in pursuit. Track dogs have been obtained from Crawford County.

The woman is still unconscious.

Officer Is Slain By Negro Prisoner In Duel on Street

I. J. Williams Shot in Heart by Silas Paramore, Whom He Had Arrested.

SHOOTING PRECEDED BY CHASE IN STREET

Posse Divides Into Three Groups to Locate Black; Thought Capture Will Be Made Soon.

Iron City, Ga., June 3.—(Special.) I. J. Williams, town marshal here, was killed this morning by Silas Paramore, negro prisoner, near the city jail. The negro escaped and had not been captured late this evening by a large posse of men, who divided into three groups to scour the countryside.

Williams arrested the negro and took him to the city hall to lock him up. The negro asked permission to get the switch key out of his car, which was granted, Williams accompanying him to the automobile.

When Paramore reached the pocket in the front seat, he whipped out a pistol and ran. Williams followed, firing at him, and caught the black. During the ensuing scuffle, the negro shot Williams in the back, the bullet entering his heart. The marshal turned toward the business section of town and died about 75 yards from the place where he was shot.

Williams leaves a wife and four small children.

MACON POSSES HUNT WOMAN'S ASSAILANT

Macon, Ga., July 4.—(Special.)—Posses are hunting a negro who late Wednesday attacked one of the most prominent white women of Wellston, Houston county.

The woman, a widow, was found unconscious tonight in her home by her son.

She had returned home by train and was attacked by the negro, who was said to be hiding on the inside of the house.

Sheriff T. S. Chapman and a number of deputies from Houston county are in pursuit. Track dogs have been obtained from Crawford county.

The woman is said to be still unconscious.

POSSE ABANDONS SEARCH FOR NEGRO

Wellston, Ga., July 5.—The hunt for a negro who late yesterday attacked a widow in her home here, was abandoned tonight.

Dogs followed the trail to a stream Evidently the negro waded the stream for some distance, for the dogs were unable to pick up the scent again.

The victim of the assault was unable to give the officers a description of the negro.

ARMED POSSE HUNTS WOMAN'S ASSAILANT

Wellston, Ga., July 5.—Led by Sheriff T. S. Chapman of Houston, a posse of fifty or sixty men heavily armed, is looking today in the sand bed swamp near Kathleen for an unknown negro, who last night is alleged to have attacked and seriously injured a prominent white woman of Wellston.

MOB BURNS COLORED CHURCH DURING MAN HUNT.

Savannah, Ga., June 19.—A colored church was wantonly burned by a white mob here last night by a mob hunting the alleged assailant of a white woman. The building burned completely down. Scores of Negroes are being made by the county police. Posses led by officers are searching the city.

GEORGIA REFORM SCHOOL GUARDED AGAINST ATTACK

Sheriff Terry Heads the Posse to Prevent Repetition of Mob's Search for Negro Couple.

BROTHER OF NEGRO SOUGHT WAS LASHED

Young Boys With Sticks and Stones Resist Invasion of Armed Men—No One Injured.

Milledgeville, Ga., August 8.—Sheriff L. S. Terry, on instructions from Governor Walker, is spending tonight on guard at the Georgia Training School for Boys, a reformatory institution. He informed reporters tonight that he had a sufficient number of armed deputies to withstand a possible repetition of the attack of last night, when an unsuccessful effort was made to seize two negroes, Thomas Douglas and his wife, employees at the school, for the purpose of whipping them.

Officials at the state institutions say that the tactics employed by the unmasked band of men last night and the night before, were almost parallel to those used in the seizure of Leo Frank at the state prison, only a short distance from the reformatory.

Men Watch Grounds.

Dr. H. C. Wood, acting superintendent, says he has noticed several times today an automobile containing five men drive by slowly and the occupants inspect the grounds closely.

The band of men last night whipped Jim Douglas, a brother of Thomas, who lives seven miles from the institution, it was learned today. Sheriff Terry said Douglas received a severe lashing.

No reason was given by the men for their attempt to whip the negoes.

A crowd of unmasked men carrying guns visited the Georgia Training School for Boys at Milledgeville, Ga., Tuesday midnight and demanded of Dr. H. C. Wood, acting superintendent of the reformatory, that he turn over to them a negro and negress, employees of the institution. Dr. Wood said Wednesday in a telephone communication to Atlanta. The men left when Dr. Wood threatened them with a shotgun, he said.

The superintendent said the visitors did not whip two negroes employed at the place, as reported in Atlanta.

EARLY REPORTS WERE EXAGGERATED.

Early reports received in Atlanta had been to the effect that a gang of masked men had attacked the negro dormitory and taken out the negro man and his wife employed there as caretakers, whipping the man severely and that another negro had been so badly frightened he had killed himself.

Governor Clifford Walker, immediately upon being advised of the outbreak of lawlessness, wired the sheriff of the county intrusting him to swear in as many deputies as needed in order to apprehend the members of the alleged mob.

Mrs. Orian Matson, superintendent of the school, was in Atlanta over Tuesday night and was therefore not personally informed as to details of the occurance. She stated, however, that she had been told the leader of the mob was a man who had recently been discharged from his position as an employee at the school. The trouble which resulted in his discharge was entirely financial in nature, she said.

Proud of Her Boys.

Mrs. Matson said she was particularly proud of the manner in which the boys at the school and risen to the emergency. She said that when it became apparent that the mob was seeking the negroes, thirty of the honor boys at the school volunteered to defend the negroes, although they had absolutely no weapons to face an armed mob, except sticks and stones. The telephone wires to Milledgeville had been cut and three of the boys, she said, made their way, entirely unarmed, through the mob, and walked to Milledgeville to secure help.

Lynchings – 1923
Side Lights on,

Georgia

1536

POSSE HUNTING SLAYERS OF EX-SLAVE

Atlanta Georgian
1-2-23

Screven County Scoured for Men Who Killed and Mutilated Old Negro.

SYLVANIA, Ga., Jan. 1.—Sheriff J. J. Griffin and his posse, of Screven County citizens, Monday continued their search for two white men, Joe Jenkins, 34, and Mims Nunnally, 33 who are accused of brutally slaying Andrew Jones, ante bellum negro, near here Saturday.

Governor Hardwick, officials stated, will be asked to offer a reward of $250 for the capture of the alleged murderers.

The aged negro, ill from influenza, was summoned from his bed by one of the two men to help them pull their automobile out of the mud, near the negro's cabin, according to Sheriff Griffin, following an investigation of the killing.

Angered at the futile efforts of the sick negro, one of the white men shot him through the head, the bullet entering from the back. Death is believed to have resulted instantly from this shot, following which the negro's head was severed from his body except for a single vertebra from which it dangled. The dead man was placed in a ditch half filled with water. The slayers fled, leaving their automobile stuck in the mud. It had not been moved Monday.

A neighbor, attracted by a pistol shot, discovered the body half submerged in the ditch. It was carried into the cabin, the home and birthplace of the slave, and where he had lived all his life. Jones' cabin was about 12 miles north of Sylvania, on the estate of F. T. Comer.

—Happy New Year—

A FEW PLAIN WORDS.

What is to be done to check the trend toward barbarism among an irresponsible element that is bringing Georgia's name in disgrace throughout the country?

All too frequent have been lynchings, and the menace of the mob terror Atlanta Constitution

All too frequent have been the homicide from the ever-ready pistol, carried in violation of law and brought into deadly action at the fancied guidance of a whisky-fired mind. 1-2-23

Life has become cheap—far too cheap—in this great state of chivalric traditions and all-American civilization; and the safety and the security of the home, guaranteed by law and "protected" by the vigils of enforcement, has become too much of an indifferent theory, laughed at and scorned through a growing disregard by a few for all law, capitalized in a measure by the legal licensing of the traffic in weapons of death—

Newspapers throughout the country are pointing to Georgia as the hot-bed of mob violence, and of homicide and of a reckless disregard for law and order.

These appraisements have been exaggerated, but the foundation for them have unquestionably been laid through a too liberal acquiescence in crime; and in the failure of law enforcement, on the part of the people of Georgia.

And now comes one of the blackest and the most brutal crimes in the history of Georgia.

And again the press associations carry it out throughout the country, and again the newspapers of the north and east and west—indeed of the south—will point to this Empire State as the scene of barbarous atrocity, unsurpassed in revolting details.

Here in Screven county on Saturday night an inoffensive old negro by the name of Andrew Jones—an ex-slave who had lived in the home of his birth for 70 years and who was known far and wide as the embodiment of gentility and politeness—a typical product of the old south who stood with unswerving loyalty by his master in the days of stress, and refused to leave when emancipated, thus devoting his life to the generations that followed, always helpful and always faithful—was barbarously murdered by two white men, whose names are known, his body cut in to slices and thrown into a puddle of water, and all without the slightest provocation other than the inflamed passions of two whisky-soaked brutes.

The old negro was sick in bed with influenza. He was called at night by those two brutes to extricate their automobile from the mud near his cabin. He responded, though too ill to do so. Bowed with the natural infirmities of his advanced age, and weakened from the disease that gripped him, he could not remove the car. The brutes became enraged. He was shot through the back of his head, and his body was then sliced to pieces with a knife, and thrown into a pool of slush.

Can one grasp the horror of such a crime, so unprovoked, and then help from wondering if at least some of our people are not drifting into a state of barbarity?

There must be a stop to this sort of business. The good name of Georgia demands it. Civilization demands it.

These brutes should be brought to speedy justice, if the governor has to offer the maximum reward allowed by law to apprehend them.

And "justice" can only mean the extreme penalty prescribed for murder.

We wonder negroes are leaving Georgia by the thousands!

Already in every part of the state sensible, fair and conservative white farmers are organizing to check this flow of labor from the fields where its work is necessary to successful farm operation.

Assurances are being extended of community protection against the brutal and unjust treatment of a small element whose outrages are overwhelmingly condemned by public sentiment.

Unless this sentiment crystallizes into something more than expression, and unless it authorizes remedial action, we need not be surprised in the face of such atrocities as that of Andrew Jones' case, if the immigration of negroes become so largely intensified as to threaten economic peril.

More than that, if an end is not put to this sort of thing, and if a small element of brazen, barbaric brutes can disgrace the state by their cold-blooded murders and escape punishment, the state will be fortunate if its loss is confined to the blacks who are leaving, **for the menace developing from these unwhipped criminals has become such as to threaten whites as well as blacks.**

John A. Manget Offers $500 Reward for Conviction Of the Screven Brutes

Atlanta Constitution

Editor Constitution: Your leading editorial of today is worthy of most serious consideration by all good citizens. In commenting on the murder of an inoffensive aged colored man by two white drunken brutes in Screven county Saturday night you ask, "What **is to be done to check the trend toward barbarism among an irresponsible element that is bringing Georgia's name in disgrace throughout the country?"** 1-3-23

To my mind that is the most pertinent question of the day, my answer is that men and women who love Georgia and who care to assist in redeeming her from the damnable slough of dishonor she is already in on account of such matters as you point out will wake up and get to work.

Will you kindly publish my offer of $500 reward for the apprehension and conviction of these Screven county brutes. I believe our good governor will offer a like reward.

In line with this splendid editorial and our "trend toward barbarism" allow me to call attention to an awful deed perpetrated 20 miles from Atlanta a few days ago. I refer to the dynamiting of a home of some peaceful foreigners in Marietta and the little colony of Syrians being ordered to leave there on the penalty of death.

You write of our "trend toward barbarism." The outside world thinks Georgia has already "arrived," and if these two terrible crimes are passed up as was the crime of breaking into the state penitentiary and lynching a prisoner, and the brutes perpetrating them do not receive the penalty of the law, I shall feel as the outside world does, that Georgia has already arrived at the barbaric stage.

What is the difference between this Marietta crime and the crime of the Turks against the Armenians? Please publish my offer of a reward of $500 for the conviction of these Marietta Turks. I believe the governor will offer a like sum and I call on good men throughout the state, particularly the many good people of Marietta and Cobb county, to lend their aid, both moral and financial, toward ferreting out these criminals.

JOHN A. MANGET.
Atlanta, Ga., January 2, 1923.

ALLEGED SLAYER OF NEGRO JAILED

1/13/23
Atlanta, Ga.

Man Accused of Brutal Crime in Screven County Reported Under Arrest Near Denver, Col.

Atlanta Constitution

According to advices received Friday by Governor Hardwick, Joe Jenkins, a white man charged with the murder of Andrew Jones, an aged negro, in Screven county, has been arrested near Denver, Col.

Requisition papers were issued to Sheriff B. T. Mallard, of Bulloch county, who left Friday evening to bring back the prisoner. Judge Strange has ordered that when Jenkins is brought back to Georgia he be confined in the Bulloch county jail at Statesboro, on account of the high state of feeling in Screven county.

The crime with which Jenkins is charged was one of the most brutal in the history of south Georgia. Jones, an old negro and former slave, was called from his cabin late at night by two white men and ordered to get their automobile out of the mud where it had stuck. The aged negro was sick and feeble and was unable to do this.

Jenkins is said to have become enraged at this failure and to have slain the old man in unusually brutal manner. He was shot through the head from behind, his throat was slashed and the body thrown into a nearby open ditch. The two white men then escaped, leaving their car still in the mud.

A few days later Mims Nunnally surrendered, declaring he was one of the two men, but charging Jenkins with the crime, saying that he was seated in the automobile at the time. This statement is corroborated by several negro women, said to have been eye-witnesses of the affair.

Rewards offered for Jenkins' capture total $1,500. Governor Hardwick offered $250, the sheriff of Screven county $250, John A. Manget, of Atlanta, $500, and Mills B. Lane, of Savannah, $500.

BEHEAD MAN; HE COULDN'T LIFT AUTO FROM DITCH

Chicago Whip

SLYVANIA, Ga., Jan. 20.—One of the most brutal crimes ever committed in this state is alleged to have been done by two white men, Joe Jenkins and Mims Nunnally, who are sought for the murder of Andrew Jones, an invalid, age 75. Chicago Ill

Was on Sick Bed 1-20-22

According to a statement by Sheriff Griffin, the man was forced to leave his sick bed by the two men when their automobile stuck in the mud near his home. After the old man had been unsuccessful in his efforts to get the car out of the hole, according to Sheriff Griffin, one of the two men shot him through the back of the head, after which his body was badly mutilated. The head was almost severed from the body.

If the combined state and county forces can apprehend the man who brutally murdered old Andrew Jones of the Mill Haven plantation in Screven County he will be brought to trial.

Following receipt of a good many letters from prominent people in that community, picturing old Andrew as a characteristic type of the old time, loyal Southern Negro, Governor Hardwick today received a telegram from J. H. Mills, chairman of the Screven County Board of Commissioners, saying:

Reward for Murderers

"Andrew Jones, age 75, was brutally murdered by two white men in this county Saturday. Mims Nunnally is in jail, but Joe Jenkins, reported real murderer, has escaped. Screven County has offered reward of $250 for capture. We ask you to offer as large reward as possible and advise J. J. Griffin, sheriff, and publish as widely as possible."

Immediately the executive department, by direction of the governor, prepared an official offer of $250 reward on the part of the state for the apprehension and conviction of the unknown party or parties guilty of the murder of old Andrew.

Information here is that Nunnally, who surrendered, makes the statement that he had nothing to do with the actual murder; that he did not leave his seat in the automobile, which was stuck in the mud, while the "trouble was going on." Both the white men, however, left the scene of the murder, abandoning the mired automobile, after the murder had been committed.

According to reports, Jones, who had the measles and was unable to walk well, was forced out of his house as the men's car got stuck in a ditch in front of the colored man's home. His wife and children were forced to stand by and see the crime committed.

SOUTH GEORGIA AROUSED BY MURDER

Governor Urged to Offer Reward for Slayers of 'Coz,' Former Slave.

A wave of indignation throughout South Georgia over the slaying of Andrew Jones, aged former slave near Milhaven last Saturday, is indicated in letters reaching Governor Hardwick and calling for a reward for the arrest of the perpetrator of the crime.

According to accounts of the killing, Jones was shot through the back of the head, his throat cut and his body kicked into a ditch because he was too old and weak to get a stalled automobile out of the mud.

"This horrible crime took away another landmark of the old South," wrote E. T. Comer, president of the Comer Company, of Milhaven, who now owns the Milhaven plantation on which the aged negro had spent his entire life. "'Coz' was a true representative of the best type of old Southern darkies. He never called a white man or woman by any other name than Boss, or Master, or Missus, and Mrs. Comer was greatly attached to him. He had been doing chores for us for many years."

Judge Samuel B. Adams, of Savannah, former Justice of the Georgia Supreme Court, also wrote Governor Hardwcik urging an adequate reward for the negro's slayer.

"I have visited the Comer home many times, and I never saw a negro more deferential or respectful to white people," wrote Judge Adams. "He was one of the few faithful, old-time darkies left. His slaying was the work of fiends and I am sure from my knowledge of the negro, that it was totally without excuse."

Governor Hardwick is expected to offer a reward for the slayer of the negro upon his return to Atlanta next week.

TWO WHITE MEN KILL AGED NEGRO

Atlanta Constitution

1-1-23

Shoot and Mutilate Sick Ex-Slave Who Was Unable to Pull Car Out of Mud—Reward Is Asked.

1-1-23

Sylvania, Ga., December 31.—(Special.)—Governor Hardwick will be asked Monday to offer a reward of $250 for the capture of two white men who are accused of brutally murdering Andrew Jones, 70-year-old ex-slave, near Millhaven Saturday afternoon. They are Joe Jenkins, 34, and Mims Nunnally, 33.

The aged negro, ill with influenza, was summoned from his bed by the two men and ordered to help them pull their automobile out of the mud in which it had stuck in front of his cabin, according to Sheriff J. J. Griffin, of Screven county, who investigated the killing.

Enraged at the futility of the sick negro's efforts, one of the white men shot him through the head, the bullet entering from the back. Although death is believed to have resulted instantly, one of the men attacked the body with a knife, nearly severing the neck and leaving the head attached to the body by a single vertebra. The dead man was pitched into a ditch, half filled with water. His slayers fled, leaving their automobile stuck in the mud from which it had not been extracted tonight.

A neighbor, attracted by the pistol shot, discovered the body half submerged in the ditch. It was carried back into the cabin where Jones was born as a slave and in which he had lived all his life.

Sheriff Griffin was notified of the killing a few hours later and at once began a search for the two white men. His posse late tonight had failed to locate them. He has asked officials of neighboring counties to assist in the hunt, which will be continued today.

Jones' cabin was one and one-half miles from Millhaven and about 12 miles north of Sylvania, on the estate of F. T. Comer, by whom he was employed.

NUNNALLY DENIES PART IN SLAYING NEGRO EX-SLAVE

Atlanta Constitution

Sylvania, Ga., January 2.—(By Associated Press.)—Mims Nunnally, Miltonia man, wanted in connection with the slaying of Albert Jones, aged negro, here last Saturday, surrendered to Sheriff J. J. Griffin here this morning. 1-3-23

Nunnally had been sought by authorities since the killing. Joe Jenkins, also wanted, is still at liberty.

In his statement to Sheriff Griffin, Nunnally disclaimed any part in the killing, stating that he did not leave the automobile during the trouble. His statement was substantiated by a negro woman, witness to the killing.

According to the information secured by the authorities here, the aged negro was killed by Jenkins after he had been unsuccessful in an attempt to get the men's automobile out of the mud. The negro's body was mutilated after the slaying. Jones' family witnesses the slaying.

Nunnally would not tell where he has been for the past several days. Other than the statement he made to Sheriff Griffin, he maintains silence. He is held in jail here.

URGE PUNISHMENT OF TWO SLAYERS OF FORMER SLAVE

Atlanta Constitution

1-4-23

Letters were received at Goveernor Hardwick's office Wednesday from two prominent citizens of South Georgia, calling upon the governor to take steps to bring about apprehension and punishment of the slayers of Andrew Jones, negro ex-slave of Screven county.

Judge Samuel B. Adams, of Savannah, former justice of the Georgia supreme court, wrote the governor urging that an adequate reward be offered by the state. Judge Adams said that he had many times seen the old darky while visiting the home of E. C. Comer on the Milhaven plantation, which Mr. Comer now owns. The negro was born and lived his entire life on this property.

"I never saw a negro more respectful to white people," writes Judge Adams. "He was one of the few faithful, oldtime darkies left. His slaying was the work of fiends and I am sure, from my knowledge of the negro, that it was entirely unprovoked."

Mr. Comer, the negro's employer, in his letter stated, "The horrible crime took away another landmark of the old south."

"'Coz' was a true representative of the best type of old southern darky. He never called a white man or woman by any other name than Boss or Master or Missus, and Mrs. Comer was greatly atached to him."

The crime was committed when the negro, who was in his cabin-home sick, was called to the road by two white men and ordered to pull their automobile out of the mud, where it had stuck. The weak and suffering old man was unable to do this and, in their rage at his failure, the two men shot him through the head from behind, cut his throat, almost severing the head, and tossed his body in a ditch. They then disappeared, leaving their car still fast in the mud.

Letters were sent by the governor in reply pointing out that the governor can only offer a reward after he has been requested to do so by the sheriff of the county where the crime was committed, and suggesting that the sheriff of Screven county be asked to make this request at once, when a reward in all probability will be offered.

SEEK NEGRO'S SLAYERS

Montgomery Adver

Two White Men Wanted For Death of Aged Black

1-1-23

(Associated Press)

SYLVANIA, GA., Dec. 31—Joe Jenkins, 34, and Mims Nunnaly, 33, white men, are being sought tonight by Sheriff J. J. Griffin on a charge of murder in connection with the killing of Andrew Jones, a 70 year old negro near Sylvania Saturday afternoon.

According to a statement by Sheriff Griffin, the negro was forced to leave his sick bed by the two white men when their automobile got stuck in the mud near his home. After the negro had been unsuccessful in his efforts to get the car out of the hole, according to Sheriff Griffin, one of the two men shot him through the back of the head, after which his body was badly mutilated.

The negro's head was almost severed from the body.

MURDER CHARGED TO GEORGIA FARMERS

Montgomery Advertiser

Federal Dipping Agent Swears Out Warrants For Carter and Son

2-5-23

(Associated Press)

STATENVILLE, GA., Feb. 4.—Dr. S. Horn, of Atlanta, federal dipping agent for Georgia, arrived here today and swore out affidavits upon which warrants were issued for the arrest of Mann Carter and his son, Will, on charges of murder.

The warrants were placed in the hands of Sheriff W. W. Pennington, of Echols county, but he reported tonight that he had been unable to locate either of the men named in the warrants.

The Carters are alleged to have shot and killed Mack Lockridge, federal cattle dipping inspector, yesterday, and also to have wounded R. S. Ritchley, his assistant, both of Dawson, Ga.

For more than a year there have been clashes between federal officers and farmers of this section over the enforcement of the cattle dipping law for the eradication of ticks. Several persons have been shot. The government established a camp near here, with two machine guns and other arms, in an attempt to stop the warfare.

POSSE MEMBER KILLED

Commercial Appeal

Memphis Tenn

One Negro Is Lynched in Georgia Mob Action!

2-5-23

MILLEDGEVILLE, Ga., Feb. 4.—Lindsay Gilmore, shot by one of two negroes who were being pursued by a posse of citizens yesterday, died early this morning at Devereaux, Ga., where he was taken for surgical treatment.

A coroner's jury held an inquest today over the body of a negro killed by the posse, in Baldwin County, following the shooting of Gilmore, and returned a verdict that the negro came to his death while resisting arrest. The fatal shooting was said to have been done by a deputy sheriff.

The negro was identified as George Butts, who had been reared near Carrs' Station. Gilmore informed the officers, it was brought out, at the inquest, that Butts shot him.

Statements made last night that another negro also had been put to death in Hancock County were denied today when the body could not be found.

Gilmore was married and leaves a wife and a child.

ALLEGED NE... RIOT CONSPI... FAILED F...

Atlanta ...

Vienna, Ga., Febru...

...ville, Ga., in May, 1921, riots oc... ...curred in which one white man and ... one negro were killed and others ... wounded. Six other negroes held in connec... ...tion with the riots will be placed on ... trial Monday.

Chapman, negro, was convicted by a jury here today of a charge of conspiracy to kill Dooly county officers. He was sentenced by Judge Richard Eve to serve a life term in the penitentiary. Chapman is a son of Fate Chapman, at whose home near Byron-

Lynchings — 1923.
Side Lights.

Georgia.

1520

MILLEDGEVILLE, GA., NEWS
AUG 10

BOYS' SCHOOL VISITED BY MOB

Crowd Of Men In Autos Visit Training School For Boys And Demand Colored Matron. Dr. Wood On Guard Promises Buckshot. Sheriff Arrives. Crowd Leaves.

Tuesday night was one of thrills around the quarters of the Georgia Training School For Boys. The real event was staged at midnight, but earlier in the evening, Mr. W. E. Foster, who lives on the farm heard one of the pigs squealing down at the pigpen. He also saw the figure of a man who was trying to "lift a pig" in more ways than one. Grabbing a gun, Mr. Foster fired in the direction of the man and the pigpen, whereupon, the ma nran off, no longer wanting the pig. That was scene I.

Then came the prime scene of the night. It was staged at midnight.

A number of men drove into the grounds of the school and men belonging to the party walked on to the porch and called. There was no answer, whereupon they picked up a chair and thumped it on the floor of the porch and again called. Mr J. H. Johnson responded and asked what they wanted. They replied "we want Tom and Mary" (the colored matron and her husband) Mr. Johnson advised them to leave saying they should be ashamed to wake up the institution at that hour. They asked for the keys to the colored building. Mr. Johnson told them he knew nothing about the keys. The speaker for the visitors then asked if he preferred to give them the keys or have them break down the door, he replied, "break down the door if you are willing to face what is behind it". Some of the men then went to the colored building and to open the door. It so happened that a week previously, a crowd of men, probably the same crowd, had called and warned Mary and Tom to leave, and they left going to Atlanta and an old colored man took their place. However Mary returned, while Tom stayed in Atlanta. The mob had promised to return and as it will be seen they kept their promise. Thus, when they called they were answered by Dr. H. C. Wood of Irwington, brother of Mrs. Manson, put in charge by his sister while she made a trip to Atlanta. They told him they wanted Tom and Mary "to lecture them". Dr. Wood invited them to come and get them but warned them that when they did come in the door, he had a load of buckshot ready for them. They asked him if he would risk his life for two niggers, and Dr. Wood replied "try it and see", whereupon, they left, going back to the main building where they conferred, standing around with their lights thrown on the school.

Meatime, Mr. W. E. Ireland, bookkeeper at the institution had phoned in to Sheriff Terry stating there was trouble at the school and he and Chief J. T. Burke made a quick run out to the scene. Not knowing what the trouble was, the car was driven right in between the line of autos, of which there were eight, one of these leaving immediately on their arrival with only one occupant who evidently did not wish to mix in any trouble. Right after Mr. Ireland phoned the Sheriff the line was cut. Sheriff Terry then asked the men present what the trouble was and they, huddled behind their cars failed to answer. The same silence greeted the same question from Chief Burke. The Sheriff then called to Mr. Johnson, whose wife was clinging to him hysterically and asked him the same question and he, fearing to start further trouble with his wife so badly frightened, replied, "no trouble". and Mr. Johnson stated that he had not called the officers which was true as Mr. Ireland had taken that precaution.

At this juncture, Mr. Sullivan, a deputy from Savannah, who on Tuesday had brought two boys from that city, came down from the verandah to the ground and said that in his opinion "something serious was about to happen, this crowd having come out and demanded the keys of the colored building." This was the first intimation to Sheriff Terry that the men on the grounds were themselves involved as he had not been told of their previous visit to the school and he thereupon reached into the automobile for his automatic gun, which clicked, ready for action. As it did so, the men jumped into their machines and sped away. During the time the Sheriff and Chief of Police were there, the men spoke in whispers only and avoided the light by standing behind their cars. Chief Burke stated that had they known the kind of trouble that was brewing, they would not have taken the chance of running in between the cars as they did. Evidently the first car to depart had brought several men as those left had to jam to get into the rest of the cars. The number of those stated to have been present varies in number from 25 to 40. Sheriff Terry quoting the former figures.

Sheriff Terry and Chief Burke spent the rest of the night on the place.

Another feature of this affair was the serious beating up of Jim Douglas, living between Milledgeville and Haddock. At about 9 o'clock, there was a call from the outside of the house and Douglas asked who was there? The voice stated it was---------,(the name of a negro friend) When Douglas opened the door, a pistol was shoved into his stomach and he was asked as to the whereabouts of Tom Thomas, his brother-in-law. Douglas said he did not know and was told that he lied and "that he would do instead, anyway." He was struck across the forehead with a pistol, was beaten with sticks and otherwise maltreated. Meantime his wife, jumped through a window and fled to another house some little distance away, where she spent the night. Douglas runs a three horse farm, is a quiet, inoffensive negro and he will have to leave his farm as he believes his life is in danger.

It was reported on the streets that the mob wore masks, but this was not true, though it is said they did wear handkerchiefs when they searched the colored building a week before and left the message for the Thomases to leave.

Wednesday morning, the affair was reported to Mrs. Manson, superintendent of the school and Mr. F. J. Paxon of Atlanta, chairman of the Board of Managers of the school. In the early afternoon, Governor Walker got into touch with Sheriff Terry over long distance telephone and the Governor advised the Sheriff to use every precaution in protecting the school and to call for military aid should the situation demand it.

Someone had stated that they had overhard members of the mob make the promise to return Wednesday and finish the job and deputies were placed on the grounds at night to see that they did not do so. Sheriff Terry himself being in charge of the situation.

Dr. Wood, temporarily in charge of the institution, at 7 o'clock made the statement that a number of automobiles had been driven arcund the grounds and that one of these had gone under the shed near the school. When asked what they wanted, the occupants had replied that "the roof of the automibile leaked in the rain and they had entered to keep dry".

The Georgia Training School for Boys is State property and there is but little doubt there will be further developments in the matter.

As it is, the authorities are keeping silent beyond the mere recital of what occurred.

Officer-Led Posses Hunt Man on Charge Of Criminal Assault

Savannah, Ga., June 13.—(Special.)—Organized, lawful [illegible] and officer-led [illegible] are tonight following every [illegible] and scouring the country around Savannah in search of a negro man, mature but said to be barely more than four feet tall, who today criminally assaulted a 24-year-old woman, wife of a well known employee of an industrial plant near the city. The assault was in the home on a street [illegible] settled in the edge of the city.

About noon the negro visited the home and at the rear door asked for a drink of water, which was given him. In half an hour he reappeared and the woman, who was lying on a bed nursing her 14-month-old baby, was taken by surprise. She screamed, but neighbors were several hundred yards distant and did not hear her.

The negro, she declares, seized a smoothing iron and struck her over the head. She has one eye badly injured and several gashes on the head. She has also black marks and bruises on her neck and throat where he choked her. She is a small woman.

Her four-year-old child, running from the house, finally alarmed the neighbors and search was immediately begun, but the negro had disappeared in a patch of woods 200 yards from the house. Bloodhounds failed to take up his trail.

SAVANNAH, GA., PRESS
AUG 13 1923

POOLER CITIZENS WITH HOUNDS ARE HUNTING FOR NEGRO

BLACK ATTACKED MRS. TOWLES WHILE ATTEMPTING BURGLARY

The major portion of the male population of Pooler is today on a man hunt.

Mrs. J. H. Towles, a widow of that place, who resides in the extreme northern section of the town, was attacked by a negro apparently intent on burglary at 11:30 o'clock last night and severly injured by savage blows from his fists. Mrs. Towles was bite twice in the face by her assailant. Mrs. Towles is about 60 years old.

Have Bloodhounds.

Bloodhounds were obtained by a posse of men, numbering between 200 and 300 from Oliver, and at 8 o'clock this morning the fugitive had been tracked to a point in Pipomaker swamp, about two miles north of the scene of the attack.

One of the hounds cut its foot severely on a piece of glass early in the chase and except for this fact, which considerably slowed up the animal, the possemen believe they would have gotten their man by daylight, the chase having been inaugurated at midnight. The men of Pooler were summoned for the hunt at 11:45 o'clock last night by ringing the fire alarm bell, located in the Pooler Rifle Club hall.

Police There.

The county police of Savannah were notified of the attack and Chief W. F. Chapman immediately took all of the available officers to conduct the search for Mrs. Towles' assailant. There was great excitement in the village this morning.

Mrs. Towles heard a noise at a window on the front porch shortly after 11 o'clock last night, after she had retired. She decided to investigate and sent her son Arnold across the street to get a gun from the home of her son, Gordon Towles. In the meanwhile the noise was repeated and, seizing the lamp, Mrs. Towles went to the porch. She had hardly set the lamp down on a small table when she was seized by the negro.

Black Struck Woman.

Mrs. Towles struggled to get away, at the same time screaming for help. Alfonso Towles, a younger son, rushed to his mother's aid from upstairs and a Mr. Scruggs and George Slater, neighbors, as well as Gordon Towles, responded quickly to the alarm. Mrs. Towles, meantime, continued her efforts to escape and the negro struck her twice, the heavy blows from his fists inflicting painful injuries which necessitated the attention of a physician. Her neck also bears marks of the negro's hands.

Fruitless.

Late this afternoon the search for the negro had proven fruitless. All of the men are heavily armed and quite a few are mounted on mules and horses.

Dog Caught in Trap.

Shortly after the noon hour the deputy sheriff from Oliver who brought down the county bloodhounds for the man hunt quit in disgust when one of the fine animals was caught in a steel trap deep in Pipemaker swamp. Chief Chapman called for the Chatham county dogs and the hunt was being continued with these at 2 o'clock.

County Officers Roughan, Umbach Neery and Wallance Long were out until noon today with Chief Chapman personally in charge. Officer Roughan came in at 1 o'clock, as did Officer Neary. Officers Maddox and McGuire joined the other policemen on the job during the morning and Officers Godbold and Grotheer will go up late this afternoon in the event the man is not located before that time.

Deputyy Sheriffs Meldrim, Wright and Westcott from Sheriff M. W. Dixon's office are among those looking for the negro.

Savannah Press

POSSES HUNT NEGRO IN SHOOTING FRAY

Montezuma, Ga., September 14.—(Special.)—Posses of citizens and Dooly county officers tonight were trailing General Simpson, a negro workman at the Allen sawmill near Dooling, who is alleged to have shot and seriously wounded J. O. Womack, sawyer, and to have slightly injured a negro woman in an affray at the mill this morning. 9-15-23

The woman brought breakfast to the men this morning, it was said, and was alleged to have thrown a plate at Womack after he had slapped her. Simpson was declared to have drawn a pistol and shot Womack, the bullet crashing through his temple, coming out at his mouth, and striking the negro woman.

Simpson then fled, and the posse and officers started in pursuit.

DOGS AND POSSE TRAILING SUSPECT

Atlanta

Metter, Ga., October 29.—Bloodhounds and hundreds of citizens are scouring nearby woods in search of Jim Easley, Jr., negro suspect wanted following an attempted assault made on a 30-year-old white woman in the heart of town here last night.

The posse searched the woods all night, but now show no signs of weakening in their effort to locate the negro who attacked the wife of a well-known citizen in front of their residence, inflicting a knife wound on her hand before he was frightened away by neighbors.

Dogs have been secured from Swainsboro to aid in the search for the man. 10-30-23

Authorities are vieing with the angered citizens in attempting to locate the negro, so that violence might be averted.

According to the woman's story to local authorities, the negro knocked at the back door of her residence last evening shortly before 8 o'clock. He asked if her husband was in, that he wished to see him.

Upon being told that her husband was at church, the negro went around to the front door and entered the house. When she saw the negro in the house, the woman quickly secured a pistol and frightened him away. He soon returned, however, armed with a knife.

The woman ran from the house to the front yard, where he overtook her. A scuffle ensued, in which she was thrown down and the pistol wrenched from her hands. In doing so, the negro inflicted a bad cut on her hand. By this time the woman's screams had attracted the attention of neighbors, who quickly came to her rescue. The negro fled.

Investigations developed that Jim Easley, Jr., 21-year-old negro, answered the description of the negro sought, and has not been seen by his family since the time of the attempted assault.

ROME, GA. Tribune

OCT 13 1923

FRUSTRATE ATTEMPT OF MASKED BAND TO LYNCH NEGRESS HERE

Warning Note to Prisoner Permitted Removal of Woman To Atlanta

JUDGE WRIGHT SORRY MEN NOT ARRESTED

Ada Robertson Charged With Shooting Chattooga Farmer Sent to Atlanta for Safe Keeping

Attempted lynching of Ada Robertson, negress, charged with shooting Emery Manor, white Chattooga county farmer Wednesday morning at Beaver Slide, Fourth Ward, was frustrated early Thursday morning when a warning of the threatened assault on the jail was received in time to permit the woman to be sent to Atlanta for safe keeping. Information in regard to the incident leaked out Friday after officers had kept it secret more than 24 hours.

Warning of the attempted lynching was given in a letter from another negro woman to her husband who was in jail. That night six masked men called at the jail and demanded the woman, but she had already been removed.

Six men with handkerchiefs covering their faces to the eyes called at the jail at 1 o'clock Thursday morning and demanded that the woman be turned over to them. They quietly dispersed when informed that word of their coming had been received and the woman had been sent to Atlanta. None of the party was recognized by Jailor W. O. Johnson. Negro prisoners said that back of the jail and near the rear of the Stapp-Smith Dodge garage a number of other masked men were assembled. This was not verified.

A letter written by his wife to John Lewis, a negro held in jail on a charge of murder, received by him at 8 p. m. Wednesday, gave the officers their tip. It was turned his letter over to the jailor, who in turn gave it to the sheriff.

Judge Wright was notified and he immediately ordered the woman's removal to Atlanta as a precaution against mob violence in Floyd county. The facts were kept absolutely quiet, and only became public Friday morning.

The letter to John Lewis was as follows:

"Dear John:

"The white folks are talking about lynching that woman they put in there today. If they come in there don't you say one word, because they might kill you. They are coming after her tonight. Please keep quiet for my sake and your sake.

"Lovingly,
"Hattie."

When the six men appeared the negro woman had been gone for several hours. They asked where she was and the jailor, who did not arise from his cot, told them that she had been taken out of town. The men stood quietly for a minute or two and then filed away. Nothing more was seen of them. The six at the jail door were the only ones seen by officer.

Judge Moses Wright of Superior court Friday morning stated that the matter had been kept quiet so as not to cause a sensation.

"What ought to have been done," said the judge, "was to arrest the six men and put them in jail. It is the certainty of no punishment that is a big cause of lynching in Georgia, and I believe that 24 hours in jail would stop many lynchings.

"I sent this woman to Atlanta because I did not want to run the chance of mob violence in Floyd county. I did not know how much faith to put in the forewarning, but did not want to run the chance.

"If the six men had been arrested when they appeared, then I could have had them placed in jail for thirty days for contempt of court without a trial. The trouble in Georgia and other states has been that men know that grand juries are mighty hard to get to indict men for lynching, and when indictments are returned the traverse juries will not convict. It is this certainty of no punishment that is a great cause of the outrages.

"In an instance like the one Thursday morning, there would have been no need of indictment or trial, and there would certainly have been six men in jail now had they been arrested."

Sheriff Wilson stated that he saw no men at the jail. The jailor did not wake the sheriff when the six men left, waiting until morning to tell him of it.

GEORGIA PRISONER SOUGHT BY MOB

Montgomery Advertiser

White Man Charged With Killing Chief of Police is Object of Infuriated Citizens

HAZLEHURST, GA., Dec. 10.—A mob was reported marching tonight on the Montgomery county jail at Mount Vernon, Georgia, where Bob Johnson, a white man of Hazlehurst, Ga., is held on a charge of murder, following the killing Sunday of Chief of Police T. J. Kersey, of Hazlehurst. Sheriff E. E. Burch, of Montgomery county, said tonight he is taking all precautions to resist the mob. 12-11-23

Warren Waters, charged principally with the killing, was spirited out of the jail tonight and taken to Macon, Sheriff Burch said, after he had received information that the mob was on its way. Jim Cope, a third man accused in the killing, is held in jail in another county.

The chief of police was killed Sunday when he went to arrest Waters on charges of violating his parole, according to information. Sheriff Burch said tonight when Kersey found Waters at his home, the officer was shot twice.

Kersey's body was taken today to his former home in Swainsboro, Emanuel county, for burial.

The mob was reported to be made up mostly of Swainsboro men.

Conviction of Negro For Murder Reversed By Supreme Court

Constitution

Holding that prosecution evidence was circumstantial and insufficient to exclude a reasonable doubt as to the guilt of Gainer Adkins, negro, found guilty of the murder of Mrs. Elizabeth McAfee Kitchens, rural route carrier, the state supreme court Tuesday reversed the Washington county superior court, which had passed a sentence of life imprisonment after the conviction. 12-20-23

The defense contended throughout the trial that Charley Adkins, 12-year-old son of the convicted negro, had committed the murder, and had introduced evidence in substantiation of the theory. The Georgia supreme court sustained the contentions of the defense, and upheld the contention that the elder negro had not been near the place of the murder at the time it was committed.

Lynchings—1923.
Side Lights.

Illinois.

1518

BOY KILLED BY TRUCK; RESCUE DRIVER FROM MOB

Chicago Herald-Examiner

After a motor truck he was driving had run over and killed Thomas Nigido, 5, 42 Cherry St., Tuesday afternoon, Joseph Stimson, 23, 1098 Fifth Ave., was mobbed and was only saved from a severe beating by the timely arrival of the police. As it was, Stimson was bitten by the [illegible] unidentified Italian woman.

The district is a heavily congested one, inhabited mainly by Italians. As Stimson drove his car through the street the child is said to have ran directly in front of the truck, which ran over the boy's head, nearly decapitating it. Almost immediately the chauffeur was surrounded by a crowd of angry Italians and he started to run for his life. Detective Sergeant Inella, who happened to be passing, gave chase and rescued the besieged man in a doorway. Stimson was held on a technical charge of homicide.

Lynchings—1923.
Side Lights.

Indiana.

1534

NEGRO ASSAILANT KILLED

Refuses to Surrender to Posse and Shot Hiding in Barn

NEW ALBANY, IND., July 2.—Edward Daugherty, [illegible] years old, charged with having attacked Mrs. Mary Lane near Mitchell, Indiana, Friday night, was killed near Salem yesterday by a posse headed by the sheriff of Harrison county. Daugherty was hiding in a barn. When the negro refused to surrender he was shot.

NEGRO IS INDICTED FOR WOMAN'S DEATH

Indianapolis, Ind., December 7.—John Thomas Shaw, negro, was indicted today on a charge of first degree murder by the Marion county grand jury, which investigated the death last week of Helen Hager Whelchel, 43-year-old widow, whose badly bruised body was found on railroad tracks beneath an overhead bridge southwest of the city.

Negro Sentenced To Death in Chair For Whelchel Death

Indianapolis, December 28.—John Thomas Shaw, negro, was found guilty of first degree murder and his sentence fixed at death in the electric chair for the slaying of Helen Hager Whelchel, by a jury in criminal court here late today. The jury was out an hour and 45 minutes. Date for carrying out the death penalty was not set.

Lynchings — 1923. Iowa.

Side Lights.

1519

WILLIAMS JURY ASKS COURT FOR PENALTY UNDER SECOND DEGREE MURDER; JUDGE DELAYS ANSWER

DES MOINES IA CAPITAL
JUNE 11, 1923

Jurors Advise Court That They Are Deadlocked and Request Guidance in Reaching Verdict; Williams Happy As Jury Wrangles.

An effort to reach a compromise verdict of second degree murdur in the case of Joe Williams, Negro, charged with the slaying of Sarah Barbara Thorsdale, 24-year-old school teacher, appeared to be in progress today when the jury of ten men and two women filed back into Judge Thompson's courtroom and asked to be advised as to the penalty provided for under second degree murder. Judge Thompson, who called them in at 11 o'clock, after they had sent word at 10:15 that they were deadlocked, ordered them to their room with word that he would instruct further at 2 o'clock this afternoon.

The request for instructions as to second degree murder penalty strengthened what appeared to be an authoritative report that the jury stood six for a first degree murder verdict with the death penalty, five for first degree with life imprisonment and one for acquittal. This would indicate that some of the eleven in favor of conviction were attempting to draw the one juror favoring acquittal to their side by seeking a compromise on a verdict of second degree murder.

Williams Smiles.

At 11 o'clock Joe Williams, handcuffed, entered the courtroom in company with deputies and his attorney, Charles Howard. Williams smiled broadly as he seated himself beside Howard at the counsel table and awaited the arrival of the jury, which entered soon afterwards.

Judge Thompson asked A. B. Elliott, foreman of the jury, to state the nature of the discussion without revealing how they stood. Mr. Elliott answered that there was a desire to know the penalty for second degree murder.

"Would an instruction on second degree aid you?" Judge Thompson asked.

"I think it would," Elliott replied.

Judge Thompson then sent the jury back to their room, telling them they were to return at 2 o'clock for further instructions.

ATTORNEYS WRANGLE.

On the court's request for suggestions, Special Prosecutor Guthrie asked that the court instruct the jury that in the case of second degree murder they have nothing whatever to do with fixing the penalty; that the penalty is up to the court, and again direct their attention to the penalties for first degree murder. Defense Attorney Howard told the court that he objected to the attention of the jury being returned to the penalties for first degree murder, saying that he understood the foreman to mean that the jury desired to be informed as to the penalty for second degree murder.

He asked the court to instruct the jury as to the law on second degree murder. If this were done, the court would instruct them only that the fixing of the penalty in this case is entirely up to the court, and not the additional fact that on this verdict the court may pass sentence of a number of years to life imprisonment.

Returning to their room, the jurors evidently decided upon a vacation until they are further instructed at 2 o'clock for they could be seen by persons on Mulberry street throwing peanuts from the window of their third floor room to pigeons along the ledges of the building and most of them appeared in a jocular mood.

Up to 11 o'clock today the jury had spent more than 29 hours in actual deliberation since they retired at 8:45 o'clock Friday evening.

DES MOINES IA CAPITAL
JUNE 11, 1923

Prosecution Spends $24,000 To Convict Williams Of Crime

Sum Includes Expenses of Probes Into Murder and Three Trials of Negro.

Approximately $24,000 has been spent by the state in its attempt to convict Joe Williams, Negro, of the murder of Sara Barbara Thorsdale, Valley Junction school teacher, on June 2, 1921, it was estimated today.

The $24,000 figures include expenses of the investigations into the murder, the three trials, the cost of the appeal to the supreme court from the conviction at the second trial and the cost of keeping Williams almost two years in the county jail and in murderer's row in the penitentiary at Fort Madison.

Whether Williams will be further prosecuted if the jury in his third trial disagrees could not be determined today. Court officials expressed widely different opinions on this question today, and County Attorney Seeburger, with whom the matter would rest, would not venture any opinion.

Lynchings — 1923

Kansas.

1516

Side Lights.

OFFICERS CHASE AN ASSAILANT.

Kansas City Star

Accused of Shooting White Officer, Man is Chased Out of Town.

Kansas City Mo,

Hutchinson, Kas., Aug. 24.—Known only as "Red" to the police, a man pulled his revolver and shot a local patrolman thru the head when the officer attempted to arrest him. The man's condition is serious. Other policemen and several bystanders who saw the affray joined in the pursuit of the man. "Red" can run. He not only outdistanced the officers, one of whom had a dilapidated motorcyvle, but he left them so far behind trace has not yet been found of him. The officers will recover. The facts surrounding the trouble are not known.

9-1-23

Lynchings - 1923
Side Lights.

Kentucky

1517

Death Sentence for Colored Man Reached Too Fast

Louisville Courier-Journal, Ky.
2-17-23

Frankfort, Ky., Feb. 13.—The death sentence given Charles Miller, Negro, in the Breckinridge Circuit Court, on a chorge of killing Sam Haycraft, railroad watchman, was reversed by the Court of Appeals today in an opinion by Judge W. E. Settle, the whole court sitting, Miller also was charged with killing Ed Sago, anothe rwatchman, the same night that Haycraft was killed.

The court held that the lower court exercised such speed in the prosecution of the man that his substantial rights were denied. The killing occurred on the night of October 4, 1922, and Miller was sentenced to death Ocotber 13. Haycraft was shot about midnight and taken to Louisville, where he died Octobeg 5. Miller was indicted the same day and an attorney was appointed to defend him.

It was contended by the defense that Miller, who was shot through the body while resisting arrest, was not in condition to stand trial or to confer properly with his attorney. It was stated that he was not known in Breckinirdge county, and that an affidavit tending to prove an alibi was not given any weight in asking for a continuance.

"While in the administration of justice a speedy trial is much to be desired, it is more important that the law be administered and its judgments executed in an orderly and deliberate way, to the end that every person may have, in truth, a fair trial," the opnion stated.

Miller was an escaped lunatic from the Mt. Vernon, Alabama, asylum, according to information turnished by authorities of Alamaba.

MOB BEATS LOUISVILLE WHITE BOY

Attacked 5-Year-Old Child; Father in Rescue Role Checks the Riot

Louisville, Ky., May 11.—Rioting between the races here Friday afternoon was only averted by the calling out of special details of police and the heroic work of Clarence Smiley, father of 5-year-old Clarence Smiley, who had been assaulted by Raymond Bryant (white), 19, 913 W. Lee St.

Police took Bryant from the crowd with his clothes torn and bleeding from numerous wounds on the head and face, while the members of the mob cried: "Lynch him!" The white boy was placed in jail on a statutory charge.

He had been beaten almost insensible before a riot call brought the police and the father of the child victim was able to arrive and plead with the members of his Race to let the law takes its course.

White Mob Gathers

The riot promise had its inception in the gathering of hundreds of whites around the district neighboring 12th and Hill Sts., known as the "Cabbage Patch," with the intention of capturing Bryant from the friends of Smiley.

Discovery of the crime committed by the white youth, a member of one of the best white families in the town, came with the end of the search for his 5-year-old victim, who had been reported lost early Friday morning. Several groups set out in search for him. He was found by a group of boys on the Illinois Central tracks. He told them how a white boy had misused him and repeated the story to the police. A physician's examination revealed the truth of his story. Bryant was named by the boy as the guilty party.

"Cabbage Patch," where the Smileys live, is a Race settlement, comprising several blocks. Whites live on the edge of this settlement. The Race inhabitants of the district are numerous and most of them own their homes. There is a strong community feeling. "Cabbage Patch" residents are known to stick together in a clannish sort of way.

Story Passes Around

It did not take long for the story of the white boy's unnatural attack on the child to get from mouth to mouth in the district. A quiet search was begun for him. The intention from the first was to turn him over to the police, the searchers feeling that once he was captured, he would be punished. Bryant walked into their arms.

While a group of 'Cabbage Patchers" were playing ball at 14th and Hill Sts., the white boy came by and was recognized. The spectators, some of them, yelled at him and he began to run. He was chased two blocks, to 12th and Hill Sts., where he was caught and an attempt was made to take him to the police station. Bryant showed fight and began abusing the men who were escorting him. One in the crowd he struck. It was then that he was beaten, despite the efforts of the child's father and William Adams.

The whites were attracted by the cries of "Lynch him!" from the mob which had grown to several hundred. By the time the police arrived the number of whites had not grown sufficiently to make an attack.

It is felt that the anger of the mob might not have been aroused so quickly had it not been for a number of ugly rumors that have gone the rounds recently. These concern excursions of certain white men into the 'Cabbage Patch" district. They make their "runs" at night and none of the women of the neighborhood are safe to be out at night. Their husbands have found no way to vouchsafe them protection. The police seem unable to put a check or the white prowlers.

POSSE COMBS WOODS FOR GIRL'S ASSAILANT

Man-Killer Charged With Waylaying Girl on Road.

FRENCHBURG, Ky., Dec. 28—Members of a sheriff's posse, carrying 15 rifles and 1,000 rounds of ammunition supplied by Gov. Fields, upon request, from the National Guard armory at Frankfort, were combing the wooded hills of Menifee County tonight in search of Reese Bryant, charged with murdering Wells on Christmas Eve.

After the alleged attack Bryant is reported to have barricaded himself in the home of his father-in-law, in the edge of the hills, and held at bay at the point of his rifle, county officers until midnight, when he escaped from the building in the shelter of the woods.

Bryant, man killer and former convict is alleged to have attacked the girl when he met her on a road en route to attend the wedding of a brother. Reports received here indicate feeling against Bryant is high.

Body of Bybee Found In Creek; Negro Confesses

Glasgow, Ky., December 30—The body of Charles H. Bybee, who disappeared December 21 from his home here was found under a pile of driftwood in Skaggs Creek near here this afternoon by Asa Young, of Glasgow, who was one of 1,000 people who participated in the search for Bybee's body today.

Will Chambers, 20, negro, suspected of connection with Bybee's disappearance, and taken to Louisville Saturday by authorities when it was feared a mob would take him from the jail here, was reported to have confessed to Bybee's murder at Louisville today.

Three bullet wounds were found in Bybee's body. From the condition of the body the opinion was general that it had been in the water during practically the entire time of his disappearance. Bybee's coat and trousers pockets had been turned inside out but two $1 bills had been overlooked in separate vest pockets.

Chambers was married the day following Bybee's disappearance, and later some of Bybee's Christmas presents were found in Chambers' home.

Lynchings - 1923
Side Lights.

1533

POSSE IN SEARCH OF NEGRO MURDERER

Montgomery Advertiser
3-15-23

Cordon Thrown Around Deep Swamp; Business Men Join in Search

(Associated Press)

NEW ORLEANS, LA., March 14—A posse headed by Sheriffs Thomas H. Stack of La Fourche parish and J. B. Dauenhauer, Jr., of Jefferson parish tonight were beating the swamps near Lockport, La., for the negro, Willie Johnson, who last Monday night shot and killed Robert Sellers, Sr., conservation agent, at Waggaman, and today shot and probably fatally wounded Deputy Sheriff Alanatlie J. Ayo of La Fourche parish when the officer attempted to arrest him in Lockport.

Officials of Jefferson parish who have been searching for the negro since Monday night notified Sheriff Stack today that the negro had been trailed to Lockport. The sheriff and Deputy Ayo went to a house in the negro section of the town where it was reported Johnson was hiding. As they entered the place the negro emerged from behind a bed with a drawn pistol and began firing. He lunged at Sheriff Ayo and fired from close range before the deputy could draw his pistol. The deputy fell to the floor with a wound in his abdomen.

Before the sheriff could get his rifle in action the negro vaulted through an open window and began firing at persons who had gathered outside of the house. The sheriff and others gave chase, shooting as they ran. The negro returned the fire.

As the negro neared a ditch he screamed and apparently fell into the gutter. When the officer and others arrived there the slayer had reached the undergrowth and brush of the swamps.

A cordon was quickly thrown around the swamps and it is believed the negro will be captured soon. Many of the business men of Lockport closed their places of business and joined in the search.

SEARCH FOR NEGRO

Montgomery Advertiser
3-14-23

Slayer of Conservation Agent Sought in Louisiana

(Associated Press)

NEW ORLEANS, March 13.—Search for the negro, Will Johnson, who last night shot and fatally wounded Robert Sellers, Sr., conservation agent, at Waggaman, Jefferson parish, when the officer attempted to arrest him, was extended to New Orleans tonight where it is believed by parish officials the negro sought medical attention after being wounded in a pistol duel with the officer and his son, Robert, Jr.

Sellers died at a local hospital today A posse searched the swamps in the neighborhood of Johnson's home last night and early today.

NEGRO SLAYER SHOT TO DEATH BY POSSE

Atlanta Constitution
3-14-23

New Orleans, March 19.—Willie Johnson, negro, was shot and instantly killed by a farmer today near Bowie, La., after being surrounded in a swamp by a posse of several hundred white men. The negro had been pursued since last Monday when he shot and killed Robert Sellers, state conservation agent, at Waggman, La. Several days later he broke through a posse at Lockport, La., after shooting and dangerously wounding Deputy Sheriff Anatole Ayo, of La Fourche parish.

BOARDS TRAIN BEFORE DOGS REACH TRAIL

Negro Sought On Freight Westbound

NEW ORLEANS LA ITEM
MARCH 15. 1923

Willie Johnson, negro desperado who killed one white man and probably fatally wounded another, in the section contiguous to Lockport. is believed to have escaped a new posse and five bloodhounds who were on his trail near Raceland Thursday forenoon, by boarding a freight train which passed Raceland about 15 minutes before the arrival of the pursuers.

It is believed there is a bare possibility he left the freight train a half hour later at Ewing when it went into a siding to let a passenger train pass and is now on his way to New Orleans. However, this is deemed scarcely likely as the negro is badly wounded. was barely able to stagger along when last seen by section hands and the passenger train passed the siding at a fast clip.

The freight train's next stop is Patterson and Sheriff Stark has wired the officers of that town, Franklin, Morgan City, Thibodaux and other towns on both sides of Raceland to be on the watch out for the fugitive.

Shoots Two

Johnson shot and killed Conservation Agent Robert Sellers Monday night and shot and probably fatally wounded Deputy Sheriff Ayo Wednesday. The latter was brought to New Orleans Wednesday afternoon and Thursday was reported to be in a dying condition at Hotel Dieu.

Johnson was hiding in ambush Wednesday afternoon and night near Ravenswood plantation. The tropical growth of the swampy region provided a natural barricade for him and it was from this that he poured a volley into Sheriff Ayo.

Seen Near Raceland

Some time Wednesday night the negro escaped from his ambush and appeared at the Dufresne home two miles from Raceland about 9 o'clock Thursday morning. The Dufresne family had not heard of the murder and gave Johnson food and an old hat. Shortly afterward other neighbors who knew of the man hunt learned of the incident and a call for a new posse was quickly sent out. Sixty men responded and five bloodhounds were put on the trail.

Through the road in the swamps swept the pursuing party, led by the dogs, which had taken the trail at once. When Raceland Junction was reached the hounds went straight to the railroad tracks and stopped. Their actions indicated their usefulness in the chase was at an end and that the fugitive had climbed aboard the freight train which had preceded the pursurers by a short time.

The chase has not been abandoned. The latest telephone message from Raceland Junction was that the posse was preparing to go to Thibodaux. The territory which is being combed for the negro extends nearly 100 miles east and west and it was estimated that several thousand men were watching for the black. Every freight train traveling either way is to be searched.

After killing Mr. Sellers Monday night the negro escaped and a large force of armed men have been seeking him ever since.

The negro was first seen passing through Lockport Wednesday about noon. and was recognized. because his father-in-law lives in that vicinity. and a watch had been kept for the wounded black along Bayou Lafourche on the theory that he would seek succor at the hands of relatives.

A posse was hastily organized and led by Deputy Sheriff Anatole Ayo, who is constable for the Seventh ward of Lafourche parish.

An effort was made to surround and capture the negro. But he was too heavily armed and too well concealed. He fired upon his attackers and one of the bullets shot Deputy Sheriff Ayo through the abdomen, inflicting a wound almost identical with that with which the black Monday night killed Mr. Sellers.

Ravenswood plantation is on the left bank of Bayou Lafourche just above Lockport. Sheriff Dauenhauer Jr., of Jefferson parish, where Mr. Sellers was murdered, left Gretna a little after noon for Lockport, with a posse, to aid in the capture of Johnson.

The negro himself is wounded, and has carried bullet wounds through the abdomen and the leg since last Monday night. These wounds were inflicted by 19-year-old Robert J. Sellers Jr., who was with his father at the time the negro murdered him. Seizing a pistol from his father after the latter had fallen, the youth fought it out with the negro, and inflicted the two wounds which have been the principal identification marks by which a search for the black has been conducted. The nature and location of the wounds was learned through the discovery of the blood-stained and bullet-torn clothing which the negro discared before taking flight across the swamps for Bayou Lafourche.

POSSE PLUNGES INTO SWAMP ON TRAIL OF NEGRO

NEW ORLEANS LA PICAYUNE
MARCH 18. 1923

Capture of Bob Sellers' Slayer Believed to Be Imminent.

Failing to find Willie Johnson, negro murderer, in New Orleans, the authorities of four parishes yesterday centered their search in the swamp country near Bowie, La.

Acting on information that the negro, who shot and killed "Big Bob" Sellers, state conservation agent, last Monday, and dangerously wounded Deputy Sheriff Anatole Ayo of Lafourche parish two days later, had been seen near Bowie by a relative of the murdered agent, Dr. Thomas Stark, sheriff of Lafourche parish, headed a posse of nearly 100 men who plunged into the swamp in search of the slayer.

Shortly before noon yesterday the negro, obviously suffering from his wounds, appeared at the home of Mrs. M. Ledet, who lives near Bowie on the property of the Bowie Lumber Company, and flourishing a revolver, forced Mrs. Ledet to give him food. He then disappeared in the direction of the swamp, according to Deputy Sheriff L. A. Borne of Lafourche.

Late last night more than 300 men were in the cordon that surrounded the swamp where the black is believed to be hiding. Five bloodhounds are being employed in the search but at a late hour they had not picked up the trail.

For the past two days members of the New Orleans police department have been active running down clews as to the whereabouts of Johnson, various persons reporting that they had seen the negro in New Orleans. Superintendent of Police Molony personally headed the hunt in this city.

Rewards totaling $1000 are offered for the capture of the negro, dead or alive. T. B. and J. D. Sellers, brothers of "Big Bob," head the list of individual rewards offered with $200. Lafourche parish offers a reward of $300. Other rewards offered are: L. C. Vial, sheriff of St. Charles parish, $150; Conservation Commission, $160; Allen Johness, $150; Police Jury Lafourche, $50.

The black is described as being about 6 feet 4 inches in height, light brown color, broad shoulders and weighing about 190 pounds. He walks with a decided limp, believed to be in the right foot and said to have been caused by a self-inflicted gunshot wound to evade the draft law during the war. He also is suffering with a flesh wound in the right side and a bullet wound in the left arm. His hair is bushy.

A negro taken from a train at Donaldsonville by the authorities was confronted by Robert Sellers, Jr., son of the slain conservation agent, but was found not to be Johnson.

1533

Mob Of 75 Whips Colored Man

The Herald
8-22-23
Baltimore, Md.

He Is Missing And Search For Body Is Started

Monroe, La., Aug. 16.—Mel Jones whipped twice by a mob of carbon plant workers and others in the vicinity of Swartz, Ouachita parish, and for whom a band of white men searched nightly for more than a week in an effort to lynch him, has disappeared and left behind him at Swartz horses, wagons and other property of considerable value, according to reports received from officers at Swartz.

Ouachita authorities are not certain what has become of the colored man, but are inclined to believe that he has fled. A search is being made for his body in the vicinity of Swartz.

Jones is said to have insulted a white girl and for this he was taken out by a mob of seventy-five white men, beaten and ordered out of the community. He returned and was given another severe beating and returned once more with a Winchester, bent on vengeance. When informed that a mob was gathering to lynch him, he is reported to have fled to Monroe, but was not found by officers in that city. He was reported to have been seen later between Monroe and Swartz, when he disappeared. He came to Swartz from Fort Worth, Texas.

Mob Chases Man Through Lake

The Kansas City Star 8-25-23

A Dance Ends When Mob Chases Man Thru Lake Filled with Pleasure Seekers. Assaliant Not Captured.

Kansas City, Mo.

Shreveport, La., Aug. 21—The much discussed and expensively advertised dance at the Fair Grounds here was interrupted and terminated long before the schedule hour, due to a raid on the hall by policemen and citizens bent on capturing the man, said to be a Negro, who cut and seriously wounded Blanchard Horn, (white) a conductor and John A. Chenshaw, motorman on the street railway here.

What's It All About.

According to several of the dancers who were on the street car at the time, the Negro entered the car accompanied by a young woman, paid two fares and asked for a rebate. The witnesses stated that the conductor made no move to give the man the rebates, but instead motioned him upward in the car. The man refused to go on without his rebates. A rebate here, it was stated by company officials, is a slip similar to a transfer given to all patrons who still lhave the old fare slugs now discontinued by the street car company. "The fare here has been reduced and when a patron deposits one of the old slugs, which represents a higher fare he is given a rebate slip which has a cash value on the next fare he pays," said one of the witnesses.

When the man refused to go without his rebate the conductor attempted to push him in the car and the fight resulted. "We went on car No. 30," said Horn, the conductor, who is near death as a result of his injuries, "and it was crowded with Negroes going to the celebration and dance at the Fair Grounds dancing academy. At Jordan street the man who cut me got on the car, paid the fares and asked for rebates. The company has stopped us from personally coming in contact with the rebates. They were in a big box with a big sign on them which would have told him to 'take one' if he had had sense enough to read it. He continued to stand there and argue for the rebates, and I said to myself that if he did not have sense enough to see that big sign I would not tell him a thing. Finally, he became abusive. He said something nasty, and I think I replied likewise. He seemed to be mad because I did not get the rebates and give them to him."

Fight Ensues.

By the time we got to the T. & P. crossing things were pretty hot, and I went up and told Crenshaw, the motorman, that I needed help back here and he kot his switch bar and came back to see what the trouble was. The car was so crowded that he had trouble in getting thru, and when he tried to push his way trru, somebody struck him, and after that everything happened."

The dancers on the car at that time said the motorman was insulting as he tried to push thru, and that he drew back his bar as if to strike the innocent passengers, who were packed in the car, because they did not make way for him. Crenshaw was engage din a fibht in the front end of the car at the same time Horn was fighting his assailant in the rear end.

Mob Chases Man Thru Lake.

Horn was cut about the neck, head and face. The passengers on the car quickly dispersed. A riot çall was turned in and the policemen came hurriedly to the scene, armed with riot guns. They were joined by many others, including sheriff Hughes and all his deputies. The mob which pursued the man before the arrival of the police chased him thru Lake Worth, near the Fair Grounds. The man swam his way across while bricks and other missiles were hurled at his head. He reached the other side safely, and has not been seen since.

The police notified every surrounding town within a radius of 200 miles, telegraphing also a description of the man.

Dancers Made to Flee.

The thousands who had already assembled at the Fair Grounds did not know what the trouble was, and so at the appointed time they went on with the dance. They were compelled to leave for their homes, as the crowd of whites on the outside constantly hurled bricks, cans, lumps of coal and other things thru the windows. No further trouble is expected because of the incident. The fugitive has not been apprehended.

MOB OF 75 WHIPS COLORED MAN

The New York News. 8-18-23

He Is Missing and Search for Body Is Started

New York, N.Y.

By Wonder City News Service

MONROE, La., Aug. 16.—Mel Jones whipped twice by a mob of carbon plant workers and others in the vicinity of Swartz, Ouachita parish, and for whom a band of white men searched nightly for more than a week in an effort to lynch him, has disappeared and left behind him at Swartz horses, wagons and other property of considerable value, according to reports received from officers at Swartz.

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Lynchings—1923.
Side Lights.

Minnesota.

1528

BLAZING DEATH GIVEN OUTLAW

Posse Uses Torch to Get Man Who Had Resisted in All-Night Fight.

By International News Service.

ALEXANDRIA, Minn., Oct. 20.—After an all-night fight in which he stood off a score of deputies and militiamen who riddled his home with bullets and attempted to gas him with ammonia, Edward Larson, 38, went to his death Saturday when his residence was burned to the ground by order of the Sheriff and County Attorney.

During the battle, William Ransden, 27, an ex-service man and sharpshooter, was shot and killed.

Larson was wanted for the murder of Jacob Ley, 60, a prominent citizen, who was killed late yesterday when he was remonstrating with Larson for routing his wife and two children with a gun.

Larson began drinking heavily of moonshine whisky on Thursday. Yesterday he began abusing his family, menacing them with a rifle, and Mrs. Larson seized her two sons and fled across the street to the Ley home. Without a reply to peace overtures from Ley, Larson raised his rifle and shot the peacemaker dead. Then the drink-crazed man rushed to his bed room, assembled all the ammunition and firearms he had in the place and waited.

Sheriff Emil Lundeen summoned all the deputies available and deputized a number of the best shots in company I of the Sixth Minnesota Infantry. When Larson did not heed a demand to come out and surrender, the firing began.

POSSE KILLS SLAYER AFTER ALL-NIGHT SIEGE

Minnesota Home Is Burned After Citizen Aiding Sheriff Is Shot to Death.

ALEXANDRIA, Minn., Oct. 20.—Edward Larson, aged 38, slayer of Jacob Ley, was shot to death by a posse and his body partly burned when his bungalow was fired in an effort to drive him from cover early today. William Ransden, a member of the posse, was killed accidentally by a bullet from the posse.

Larson shot Ley last night after the latter had attempted to intercede for Mrs. Larson and her two sons, who had been driven from their home by the husband at the point of a gun.

Larson then barricaded himself in the bungalow. 10-21-23

Larson's death followed an all-night siege during which the posse, under the direction of Sheriff Emil Lundeen of Alexandria, sought to dislodge him by rifle fire and by pouring ammonia into the house. One member of the posse gained entrance to an adjoining room to that in which Larson had barricaded himself and spread nearly two gallons of ammonia about the floor.

The ammonia failed, however, to have any effect on Larson, and the posse divided itself into two sections and began to pour a steady stream of lead into the building, to which Larson steadily replied. It was during this exchange of shots that Ransden was fatally wounded, apparently from a bullet from the opposite section of the posse.

While the posse men held a consultation Larson kept up an intermittent fire and the Sheriff's party decided to fire the house. This was done at 6:30 o'clock and soon after the building was burned Larson's partly charred body, with one leg almost shot away, was found in the ruins.

Slayer Killed by Posse; Body Partially Burned

ALEXANDRIA, Minn., Oct. 20.—Edward Larson, 38, slayer of Jacob Ley, was shot to death by a posse and his body partly burned when his bungalow was fired in an effort to drive him from cover, possemen found early today when they examined the smoking ruins of the house.

Lynchings - 1923
Side Lights on,.

1529

Mississippi

FUGITIVE SHOT BY WHITE WHOM HE GAVE TRUST

Eludes Bloodhounds for Week; Eats Swamp Thistles; Finally Driven Into Town by Hunger

Bowie, Miss., April 6. — Hunger forced Willie Johnson, alleged slayer of Conservation Agent Robert Sellers (white), to put himself in the way of a bullet from the gun of John J. Grenier (white), foreman of the Evangeline section of the Bowie cattle ranch.

After nearly seven days spent in the swamps eating the cores of thistles, the fugitive sneaked back to the outskirts of the town and besought his slayer Grenier to feed him. The white man sent Johnson into the house and fired into the latter's back as he was leaving.

Crowded Bloodhounds.

Trail after trail had been taken up and followed, but always Johnson evaded his pursuers. Rainfall at night aided him, it is said, and the dogs (four from the state penitentiary and one owned by John Anderman of St. James parish) were at a loss in attempting to follow him through the swamps.

Early Monday morning while the posses and the bloodhounds were waiting here for information of a fresh trail of the killer, Johnson crept out of the swamp, gun in hand, and approached the ranch house. He asked the foreman, Grenier, for food. The latter told him to go to the kicthen, eat and wait there. Johnson entered the house, seized a loaf of bread offered him by Mrs. Grenier and fled. Grenier rushed into the house, seized a gun and fired at Johnson through a window. He fell, dying almost instantly.

He was accused of killing Robert Sellers and of desperately wounding Deputy Sheriff Anatole Ayo.

Display Corpse.

His body was turned over to Tom Sellers, a brother of the slain man, who announced that he would take it to Waggaman, where it could be placed on display. Another brother of the dead white man is reported to have flown to Waggaman in an airplane in order to get a view of the spectacle.

Johnson had been wounded three times before he was killed, once by Robert Sellers, once by the latter's son, and once by Sheriff Stark, who was called to the Grenier home immediately after the murder.

It is said that Johnson incurred the ill will of farmers around here by talking to workers about making it for the North. So many of the plantations have lost laborers that desperate efforts are taken to prevent any more of an exodus. Johnson at one time expressed his intention of leaving. He was known as an industrious man and was a member of the church.

MISSISSIPPI BAILIFF IS KILLED BY NEGRO

Tom Wilson Shot Attempting Arrest at Philadelphia.

PRISONER MAKES ESCAPE

Black Resists and Officer Fires on Him, But Negro Shoots White Man Twice—Bloodhounds Lose Trail of Fugitive.

PHILADELPHIA, Miss., May 22.—Tom Wilson, prominent farmer of Beat 3, was killed by a negro prisoner about 4:30 o'clock last night. Mr. Wilson was acting as bailiff of the beat and was attempting to arrest the negro who was a laborer on the Winston farm. There is some doubt as to the cause that led up to the arrest of the negro but it is thought to have been trouble over delinquent taxes.

The bailiff went to the house to make the arrest. The negro asked that he be allowed to go into the house to get his hat. The request was refused, and the negro immediately attacked the officer. A tussel ensued and Mr. Wilson drew his gun and shot the negro in the mouth, but after this one shot, his gun, an automatic, is thought to have jammed and refused to fire, because it was found later in his hip pocket with one empty chamber.

The negro fired twice, both bullets entering the officer's body just below the heart. Death was instantaneous.

The negro made his escape to a nearby farm house, said that he had been shot, and asked that he be aided in making his escape. The farmer advised him to stay in his barn until the excitement had passed. This the negro consented to do and went to the barn, but passed on through and made his escape before accounts of the affair could be learned.

Blood hounds were secured at Meridian and put on the trail at once. They took up the scent at the barn and followed it as far as the public road, where it was lost. Apparently the man had been taken into some vehicle at this point. It has been rumored that he was seen at the home of his father-in-law near the Kemper County line about midnight, and it may be that the dogs will be taken to this place to take the chase.

Conflicting reports from Union are that the negro has been surrounded in a swamp near that place and his capture will be made in a short time. Sheriff Posey of Philadelphia is heading the chase for the criminal.

MOB TALK NIPPED.

Clifton McCardle Spirited Away From Hattiesburg.

HATTIESBURG, Miss., Sept. 5.—Clifton McCardle, held for the killing on last Tuesday night of Ben Patrick in the Conn-McCardle-Patrick shooting affray which threw a crowd of men, women and children into panic while they were assembled in front of the offices of the Hattiesburg American for the purpose of getting returns from the Mississippi Democratic primary, was removed secretly from the Forrest County jail Sunday and is now imprisoned in a place which the authorities will not make known.

Sheriff W. M. Edmonson states that he moved young McCardle as a precautionary measure, after hearing that there was some talk among people of the Dixie School neighborhood, on the street of Hattiesburg, of removing the young man from jail by force.

Sheriff Edmonson says he thinks there was no danger of any such threats being carried out, but that he felt it was to the best interest of all concerned that the young man be removed.

The sheriff stated that talk of violence originating in the Dixie School community, led him to throw a guard around the jail for several nights, and that the young man's removal obviated the necessity for this additional expense of operating the prison.

The sheriff also stated that he has been unable to ascertain whether the alleged threats of the forcible removal of young McCardle were made by his friends or enemies.

THREATENED BY MOB.

Sheriffs of Two Counties Ordered to Protect T. Gordon.

JACKSON, Miss., Sept. 28.—Gov. Russell today ordered the sheriffs of Hancock and Pearl River counties to furnish protection for T. Gordon, a Hancock County farmer, who yesterday reported to the governor that a mob of unmasked men had threatened to kill you if it takes five years to armed men from Pearl River County visited him at night and ordered him to leave and never return. "I'm going to will you if it takes five years to do it," he said the leader told him. Gordon informed the governor that he was being threatened because of objections to his second marriage.

Macy Dinkins, the governor's secretary, furnished the two sheriffs with the names of the alleged members of the mob and requested an investiga-

MOBILE MAN SHOT IN POSSE BATTLE

Mississippi Searching Party Fired on by Two Burglars in Swamp

LUCEDALE, MISS., Sept. 23.—J. C. Griffin of Mobile, was shot and seriously wounded here today while with a posse of officers and citizens searching for Elbert Tomlin, 23 and Joe Smith, 21, wanted for an alleged burglary of the store of the Premium Mercantile company. Griffin is under the care of physicians here and is paralyzed from his waist down.

The store was broken into some time Saturday night late or early Sunday morning, stealing a lot of goods including shot guns and shells. Deputy Sheriff O. E. Ward organized a posse of 150 men and they located Tomlin and Smith in a ravine acording to news brought here opened fire wounding Griffin. The posse returned the fire but it is not known whether the two men who were being chased were struck by any of the bullets or not as they disappeared in a thick swamp. Up to a late hour tongiht they had not been located. Some of the posse and Deputy Ward are still searching for the two men.

A message was sent to Mobile and other nearby towns tonight for bloodhounds to assist in running down the two badly wanted men.

KILLS ATTACKING NEGRO.

Wayne County Planter Kills Man Who Tried to Assault Daughter.

WAYNESBORO, Miss., Nov. 6.—T. K. Stanley, planter and cattle raiser of Wayne County, shot and instantly killed Wesley McFarlan, negro, at his residence in Boyce, Sunday morning. The facts as brought out by the coroner's jury were that Mr. Stanley and other members of his family were some distance away from the house and hearing his 16-year-old daughter scream, Mr. Stanley rushed to the house and found the negro had attempted an assault on his daughter and had her forced behind the stove with a drawn knife, when Mr. Stanley appeared on the scene, the negro turned toward him with the knife, whereupon Mr. Stanley stepped back into the hall secured his shotgun and emptied the contents into the negro's head. He then sent for the sheriff and acting coroner who empanelled a jury, who, after hearing the above facts, exhonerated him.

NEGROES MURDER OFFICER SATURDAY

1529

Serious Affair in Mississippi May Lead to Lynching During Sunday

BOLTON, MISS., Dec. 23. (1:30 a. m). —Ollie Lancaster, town marshal was killed and Will Hamilton, a special deputy was seriously wounded Saturday night when they attempted to arrest three negroes on a charge of robbing a negro at Edwards, near here.

Lancaster was killed instantly and his companion fell with a serious wound. Their assailants escaped.

A posse quickly formed and a search for the negroes was begun under the leadership of Sheriff Lewis Williams. Bloodhounds from Crystal Springs were en route to the scene late last night.

Telephone advices from Edwards late last night said the negro who was robbed there was uninjured. He was said to have been attacked by three unknown negroes who robbed him of $9.

Shortly after the killing at Edwards the authorities there telephoned Marshal Lancaster to search a train when it arrived at Bolton for suspects. When the train reached there it went into a siding. The officers found four white men near the train caring for a companion with a broken leg. They were arrested and sent to jail at Raymond.

The search was continued for the three negroes. Passing to the other side of the train the marshal and his deputy came upon them. The negroes immediately opened fire, instantly killing the marshal and wounding Hamilton. They escaped.

A posse was quickly organized and search for the negroes began. Bloodhounds are on the way to the scene from Bolton.

Feeling is tense here and officers are taking extra precautions to protect the negroes in the event of their capture. No trace of the negroes had been found at a late hour. The posse continued the pursuit, increasing in numbers as citizens joined in the man hunt.

Lynchings—1923.
Side Lights.

Mississippi.

1530

POSSES COMB SWAMP FOR NEGRO ASSAILANT

Yazoo City, Miss., July 30.—Posses today combed the Big Black River swamps about Myrleville, 20 miles southeast of Yazoo City, in search for "Buster" Demus, negro, alleged accomplice of Willie Minneilfield, negro, lynched yesterday for the part he is alleged to have taken in an attack on Mrs. William E. Russell, wife of a Myrlville planter, who was found unconscious at her home late Saturday night with a wound in her head inflicted by a blow with an axe.

Up to noon, so far as known here, Demus had not been found.

Physicians attending Mrs. Russell, stated her chances for recovery were slight.

Minneifield and Demus were captured yesterday at the latter's cabin to which bloodhounds led a posse of citizens. After one of the negroes is said to have confessed, Minneifield, who was charged with having entered the Russell home while Demus stood watch outside, was bound to a stake and burned, according to reports received here. Demus, who had been bound with a rope about his neck, slipped the noose and escaped while the lynching of Minneifield was in progress.

Another negro also was taken prisoner but was released when it was established he had no part in the attack.

FLEEING NEGRO NOT FOUND BY PURSUERS

Doctors Report Mrs. Russell's Chance to Recover Slight.

YAZOO CITY, Miss., July 30.—An all-day search in the Big Black River swamps about Myreville today for "Buster" Dumas, alleged accomplice of Will Menefee, who was lynched yesterday after he is alleged to have attacked Mrs. William Russell, wife of a Myreville planter, with an ax, failed to reveal trace of the fugitive who escaped from a posse yesterday by slipping a rope from his neck and making a dash for liberty, while Menefee was being burned at a stake for his alleged crime.

Search for the negro continued tonight.

Mrs. Russell, who was brought to a hospital here when she was found unconscious in the Russell home late Saturday night, was reported in critical condition tonight with but slight hope for her recovery.

No inquest has as yet been held in connection with the death of Menefee.

Menefee, a tenant farmer, is one of several negroes who are alleged to have attempted to break their contracts with the planter and go to Chicago several weeks ago. Menefee and the others were overtaken by the planter at Jackson and induced to return to the Russell plantation. The fact that Menefee was intercepted and returned to the plantation is not believed to have prompted the attack on the planter's wife.

A reward of $500 has been offered for the capture of Dumas.

WOULDN'T SELL HIS STORE, IS RUN FROM TOWN

Mississippi Whites Open Fire On Pressing Club Owner Who Angered Rival

Ofttimes readers of the Chicago Defender view with a suspicious mind the various stories appearing in this publication regarding the treatment and brutalities practiced on our people in the South. Almost every day letters pour into this office describing some deplorable act committed upon men and women of the Race. The information is carefully worked into a news item, with such minor descriptions deleted. The following letter details an account of a recent outrage in Bude, Miss.:

"Everybody, Colored, here is selling out what they have and leaving. I mean the ones that own their homes. We had a case of night riding here some two months ago and since then the people are all leaving. We had a parade of the Roxie lodge of the K. K. K. a few months ago and since then there have been signs of 'Just any kind of trouble.' We had grocery stores, restaurants and pressing shops of our own up until a few weeks ago. Now they have all gone out of business except one lunch stand. There seems to have been made an agreement among the white people to close out all people of Color that were in any kind of business.

Had Good Business

"R. R. Pool of Brookhaven came out here about two months ago and opened a pressing shop in the place owned and formerly run by Clarence Bunckley, now in Chicago, and was doing a fine business. There is a white presser here and it seems that Mr. Pool's success began cutting into this white presser's business among the Colored people. The white presser came one day and offered to buy Mr. Pool out. Mr. Pool refused to sell. The white presser went away and sent a Colored man to talk with Mr. Pool. He also failed to get any results as far as getting Mr. Pool to sell. Just after Mr. Pool had closed up for the night (the same night) and was on his way home in company wtih two friends he met three cars filled with white men with one Colored man in the lot. An occupant of one of the cars called to Mr. Pool and told him that he had some clothes in the pressing shop that he wanted to get. Mr. Pool, unsuspecting, got upon the running board of one of the cars and went back toward the shop. He was then ordered to get into the car.

"At this juncture the occupants of the car began putting on their masks. Mr. Pool began scuffling, having been grasped by one of the occupants of the car. The car was stopped and the Colored man that was in the car jumped out and aimed to assist in getting Mr. Pool into the car with the result that Mr. Pool succeeded in getting loose and would no doubt have made a safe getaway but for the fact that this Colored brother pursued him and cornered him in back of the lot of the pressing shop. This had the effect of making Mr. Pool turn and his only outlet was to come out in a direction very near when some of the raiders were stationed and some of the car lights showed him up.

Shot in Head

"There were two shots fired. The first shot missed, but the second shot found its mark, striking Mr. Pool in back of the neck and coming out of his cheek, knocking him out. He was then picked up, put into the car and carried to the Homochitto river to be put in there. It is reported that Mr. Pool says that the bullet that hit him had rendered him unconscious and that he did not know when they picked him up and put him into the car, but that he regained consciousness while they were en route to the river with him. After regaining consciousness he still played ''possum' on them to get a line upon their intentions. When they got to the river he got an idea of what his fate was to be and then they discovered that he was not dead. They thought all the time that he was dead. After discovery on their part that he was not dead they held a conference as to the next move a little apart from him, he being held by this Colored 'brother.' He was at the end of this conference put back in the car and carried down to Roxie, about 15 miles, and severely whipped. He firmly believes that he would have been killed had not he shown a sign that he was a Mason and some white man in the crowd, a spectator attracted by the commotion at the time he was being whipped, told the whippers if this Negro was not turned loose he would kill everyone in the crowd.

Stripped of Clothes

"Mr. Pool was then stripped of the clothes that he had on and a suit of overalls was put on him and he was then locked in a railroad box car after being given $10 to pay any doctor bill that he might have to pay and $6 to pay his railroad fare and told to get out of the country. A workman passing the car standing on a siding the next morning heard Mr. Pool's groans and opened the car to investigate. Finding him in this condition he took him out and placed him on a train that passes Roxie early in the morning for Brookhaven.

Lynchings—1923
Side Lights

Mississippi.

1531

NEGRO HELD FOR ATTACK.

Commercial Appeal

Bloodhounds Track Man Who Assaulted Rail Agent Near Meridian.

Memphis, Tenn.

MERIDIAN, Miss., Sept. 17.—A Sunday afternoon chase here with bloodhounds resulted in the capture of Gus Thomas, negro, 28, who assaulted Special Agent Scruggs on board a freight train entering the city by striking and knocking him off the train, then jumping off himself and taking the officer's pistol away from him while the latter was in a dazed condition from the effects of the blow and the fall to the ground. 9-18-23

As soon as the officer was able to collect his wits he notified police headquarters and a detail of officers went to the scene, carrying with them bloodhounds belonging to J. S. Jenkins. After a chase of about two miles the negro was captured by Special Officer L. C. Monette and Carl Brown, a citizen. The negro when overhauled made no resistance. He was docketed on three charges, assault, carrying a pistol and highway robbery. He claims his home is at Watubee, Miss., and he was stealing a ride on the freight when he attacked Special Agent Scruggs.

NEGRO IS KILLED FOR REMARKS TO WOMAN

Preacher Shot to Death by Band of Whites.

W

GRENADA, Miss., Dec. 27.—William Hardeman, Jr., aged 49, a negro preacher, was shot to death at his home about three miles east of Elliott station last night between 9 and 10 o'clock by a party of unknown white men who gave as their reason for the killing, so evidence presented before the coroner's jury showed, that the negro had some two or three weeks ago made sundry insulting remarks to Mrs. S. M. Neal, at Elliott.

It seems that Hardeman owed some money to Mrs. Neal, who is running the store formerly operated by her husband who was killed last summer by an Illinois Central fast train at the station crossing at Elliott. Mrs. Neal sent the negro word several times to come and settle. When he did come to her store it is said that he was very sarcastic and caustic in his remarks to her.

According to the stories told by the dead negro's wife and his brother, both of whom witnessed the killing last night about 9 o'clock a party of men came to the door and asked assistance in having their car pulled out of a mud-hole. They gained entrance to the house and after a few minutes, discovered Hardeman, who had become frightened and had hidden himself, and shot him to death, the bullets piercing his brain and his body.

It was evidently not the intention of the party to take the negro's life, for one of its members left a shotgun, a twenty-gauge pump, at the house in the hurry of leaving after the shots were fired.

Lynchings — 1923
Side Lights.

Missouri.
1515

Lynchers Scare Columbia, Mo., Folk From Town

Columbia, Mo., residents are preparing to flee to other parts in the wake of the recent lynching of James Scott which occurred there. Letters are being received by Columbians from friends and relatives there telling of a decided notion to quit the town as soon as possible. One of the letters reads:

"Dear John: Yours was received and was so glad to get it. John, I want to leave here right away, but have not got the money. We all fear something is going to happen because things are awful critical just at the present time. We can't tell just yet, but we've got a good many who have left, some gone to the country, some left town.

"You ought to know that every white man who gets arrested for this lynching is let out right away on bonds. The authorities feel they've got to do something on account of the state university."

AN INNOCENT MAN LYNCHED IN COLUMBIA

Authorities Now Sure That James Scott Was Brutally Murdered For Alleged Crime He Knew Nothing About.

COLUMBIA, Mo., July 5.—It is now believed, practically certain that James T. Scott, the Colored man lynched here on April 29, was innocent of the alleged crime of attempt to rape.

The rumor that authorities had reached that conclusion spread like wild fire when Regina Almstedt, the girl who previously identified Scott, was taken to Mexico today to look at Ollie Watson, another Colored man held there. He is being held on a charge of an assault on a Colored girl here and has taken a change of venue to Mexico.

The authorities are very quiet on the outcome of the trip to see Watson.

Shorty after Scott's arrest Watson was also taken into custody by the police on the complaint of a Colored girl that he had brutally assaulted her. The incident she alleged antedated the attempted assault upon the Almstedt girl.

Through a queer twist of circumstances, Scott and Watson were placed in the same cell in the Columbia prison.

On the night of April 29, when the mob was attempting to break into the prison to get Scott, he called to the members of the mob that he was innocent of the crime and that Watson, his cellmade, had confessed to him that he was the guilty one.

No credence was given to the plea at that time by the mob, or again when he repeated it before he was thrown off the bridge later in the night.

Scott was married and had a family. Watson is unmarried. Another circumstance which was not weighed in Scott's favor by the residents of Columbia who participated in the mob was the fact, brought out in the preliminary hearing, that he was seen in the Medical Building at 3 o'clock on the afternoon of the crime wearing white clothes.

The trial of the men indicted for the lynching of Scott will be called in Columbia Monday morning.

Wrong Man Is Lynched Girl Tells Parents

Columbia, Mo., July 13.—Additional evidence was given to the already heralded fact that a mob here made a fatal mistake in lynching James T. Scott, janitor at the University of Missouri, when the 14-year-old daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Almstedt, on whom the attack was attempted, appeared in Mexico, Mo., and identified a man in jail here as the real perpetrator of the crime.

Scott, at the time of the lynching, April 29 last, proclaimed his innocence, but the blood-thirsty mob ignored it, as well as the plea of Dr. Almstedt, father of the girl, to spare his life. Scott, who was married, bore a splendid reputation. Students of the university were accused of taking part in the lynching.

BOONE COUNTY ENDORSES LYNCHING

The acquittal of George Barkwell by a Boone County jury of participating in the mob who lynched James Scott last April, is a travesty on justice.

Of course, it was expected that a conviction would be hard to secure in the face of the fact that the jury selected to hear the evidence were men mostly from Columbia, where the lynching actually occurred. After the testimony of the college student who stated that he positively identified Barkwell as the man who, in the name of mob law, tied a one inch rope around Scott's neck and pushed him off the bridge to death, every shadow of doubt as to Barkwell's guilt, was removed from the minds of unprejudiced people.

The State had a strong case against the defendant. There was no reason for the young student to perjure himself. He just simply had the manhood and the courage to tell the truth, though he found it unpopular to do so. But on the other hand, the witnesses for the defense were members of the mob, and no doubt, but that they took an active part in the lynching murder.

However, it's an ill wind that blows nobody good. It just so happened that the sheriff, the police and the judge who testified in this, in their effort to shield Barkwell, surely fastened the guilt on others who have been indicted in connection with the lynching of Scott.

The State, while failing to secure a conviction in the Barkwell case, did lay a solid foundation for conviction of most of the other five under indictment for the same offense. In the meanwhile, the prosecution will be strengthened by their existence in the case.

ASSAULT STORY AIMS TO PLACE CRIME ON RACE

Saint Louis Police Hold White Girl's Escort for Further Questioning

St. Louis, Mo., Nov. 16.—Whenever a crime has been committed and the perpetrator wishes to conceal his guilt or the authorities are at a loss to solve the riddle, a convenient report is that a "Negro" did it. In this city an inquest has been in progress for three days to determine who was guilty of brutally murdering Miss Marie Bowers (white), a 16-year-old telephone operator, after attempting to assault her in an alley at 21st St. and Chouteau Ave. last week.

The only witness to the affair was Clarence Level (white), 19, of 1230 Missouri Ave., who was the girl's escort and who, according to his own testimony, was engaged to her. His report to the police was that he had been standing near the northwest corner of 21st St. and Chouteau Ave. when he felt a pistol placed at his back and he was ordered to proceed into the alley. He turned around and "saw a Negro." He and the girl according to his testimony, were forced into the alley, where the man with the pistol began fumbling with the girl's clothing. She screamed and the man fired.

"As he ran east through the alley I called upon him to stop and he turned and fired in my direction. Marie fell and I picked her up and carried her to the mouth of the alley."

Against this story told by Level is the testimony of several of his friends and the slain girl's sister, Miss Annabelle Bowers, 20, who was with her until she went away on the fatal evening with Level. According to Miss Bowers, she and her younger sister, Marie, had met Level at a corner after their parents had refused to admit the young man because he appeared to have been drinking. Level had gone into a friend's house near the corner and while the two girls were waiting for him, engaged in conversation with two young men, one of whom had formerly been attentive to Marie. When Level came out he is said by Annabelle to have remarked: "You think you're smart, don't you?" The other young men hastened away.

Mike Marnotti, 6209 Wilson Ave. who is employed with Level at the Union Electric Light & Power Co., testified that Marie had been introduced to him as Level's wife at a dance given by the company's employees and that he had danced with her several times. This led to a quarrel between Marnotti and Level and they had agreed to meet in a garage and fight it out, but Level had not appeared at the rendezvous.

Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Vocker, 1930A [illegible] testified that they were walking west through the alley in which Miss Bowers was found and that they saw a [illegible] that it was took dark to tell whether or not he was a member of the mob, as has been charged.

Level has been detained for further questioning.

1515

CRIME IS CRIME, WHETHER BY BLACK OR WHITE

A repetition of the famous "Ellis" case baffled the police of the city during the past week.

Following the report of a "jealous" sweet-heart that a Negro had shot his girl friend while attempting to assault her, the police and the daily newspapers instantly became color blind and forgot reason in their endeavor to fasten the crime on a Negro.

The Argus offers no defense for any Negro who would be guilty of such a murderous crime as was reported in the Marie Bowers case, but we are opposed to a "one-sided" investigation and "one-sided" news stories as have appeared in the daily papers.

St. Louis Argus - 11-16-23

Reason would teach anybody that if for any reason Level had killed his sweetheart at this lonely spot, he would deny having done so and would do all he could to cast suspicion on some one else. This lad was old enough to know that when a crime of any kind (except highway robbery in the broad daylight) has been committed, it is easy in this day of Ku Kluxism to prejudice the minds of the police by hollering "Negro!" "Negro!" and the police become color blind and apparently unable to reason.

In this case, the mother and sisters said repeatedly that they doubted the story of Level. His story to any fair and unprejudiced mind, to say the least, was flimsy, and void of logic and reason. It is no strange story to the police for one to holler "murder," "thief" and at the same time making away with the goods.

St. Louis, Mo.

It was quite easy for this lad to think of the Ellis case and reason that no one was a witness to the crime but himself. These points apparently were not taken into consideration by the police. It seemed that the only evidence or stories wanted by the newspapers and the police were those which pointed to a Negro in the case.

Crime is Crime. We think the police and newspapers should be just as much interested in running down white criminals as black criminals. But treatment in this case, to our mind, has been a one-sided affair.

MOB BREEDING.

If the police are interested mainly in seeing justice done and if the daily newspapers are interested in giving the public of St. Louis news uncolored by prejudice a little common sense might be used by both these public institutions in the murder of Marie Bowers last Saturday night.

St. Louis Argus

The Globe-Democrat and the Post-Dispatch have stated in headlines that Marie Bowers was murdered by a Negro. This statement has been made on the unsupported word of the girl's lover, known as being extremely jealous of her and a man whom the murdered girl was known to stand in fear.

St. Louis, Mo.

According to the statement of the girl's lover the alleged Negro, before committing the murder, forced the man and the girl across one street, half a block down another street and about fifty feet into an alley. This man, known as a fighter further states that the alleged Negro attempted rape on the girl while keeping both the girl and her lover covered with one revolver.

11-16-23

Of course, if the daily papers are desirous mainly of creating an anti-Negro, riot-breeding feeling in St. Louis their reporting of the Bowers murder has been very intelligently carried out. Editors, however, should be well enough informed to know that a spirit of racial hatred as between colored and white people at St. Louis is not apt to have the same effect as such feelings in Mississippi or even at Columbia. Neither the mobs, their servants nor their well wishers can succeed in frightening any appreciable number of Negroes at St. Louis, and any hate-breeding sentiment will work as much harm to whites as to colored residents of the city.

Lynchings — 1923
Side Lights

New Jersey

1532

Negro Convicted For Brutal Murder of Woman

Houston Post 1/7/23

Associated Press Report.

NEWARK, N. J., Jan. 6.—William Battle, 19-year-old negro, tonight was convicted of first degree murder for the slaying of Mrs. Charles F. Brigham, whose mutilated body was found stuffed into a preserve closet in the cellar of her home in Orange, 10 days ago. He will be sentenced Monday.

FIND BATTLE INSANE.

New York Times

Negro Slayer of Orange Woman Is Subjected to Examination.

William E. Battle, negro, who is schedbled to die next month for the murder of Mrs. Eleanor J. Brigham at Orange, N. J., is suffering from a form of insanity, according to physicians who examined him yesterday at the request of his counsel. A formal inquiry into his sanity is expectetd as th eresult of the doctors' findings.

1-31-23

The physicians were Dr. Charles A. Rosewater and Dr. Ambrose Dowd of the Newark City Hospital, who reported to County Judge Stickel and Prosecutor Bigelow after they made a five-hour examination of the prisoner at Trenton. The physicians expressed the opinion that Battle did not have physical or mental force enough to have beaten Mrs. Brigham to death. William P. Brandon, Battle's lawyer, indicated that he would request a formal examination of his client.

"Battle is just a poor boob who would sign any confession put before him. The wrong man is in the death house," Brandon said.

LYNCHING FEAR NOT A BAR.

N.Y. Times

1/16/23

Negro Arrested in New Jersey as Slayer Must Go Back to Georgia.

Vice Chancellor Backes at Newark yesterday signed an order dismissing habeas corpus proceedings to prevent extradition to Iron City, Ga., of Silas Parmore, negro, indicted there for the murder last June of Police Chief J. J. Williams. Execution of the extradition order signed by Governor Silzer of New Jersey, was ordered by the court to be held up forty-eight hours to give counsel for Parmore time to appeal, which counsel announced he would do.

The court rendered an opinion that Parmore's plea that he would not get a fair trial and that he feared a lynching if returned to Geogira was not a legal ground for blocking extradition, and called attention to the Georgia executive's assurances on that score.

Parmore was arrested at New Brunswick, N. J.

Lynchings – 1923
Side Lights

New York

1514

MOB TRIES TO LYNCH NEGRO PICKPOCKET

Policeman Draws Pistol and Holds Off Crowd of 500 Until Reserves Arrive.

GIRL ROBBED ON ELEVATED

Passengers Chase Adams Into Colonial Hotel, Where He Is Captured in Basement.

Patrolman Joseph Walker of the West Sixty-eighth Street Station had to draw his revolver yesterday to prevent a crowd of 500 men and women from seizing Forrest Adams, a Cuban negro, whom Walker had arrested on a charge of picking the pocket of Lillian Weiner, a stenographer, while both were passengers on a southbound Ninth Avenue elevated train.

Cries of "Get a rope!" "String him up!" "Let me have a gun and I'll kill him," came from the crowd. The policeman, with his back to the wall of the Colonial Hotel, Eighty-first Street and Columbus Avenue, the negro with one hand and with the other he covered the most menacing of the mob with his revolver. He held his prisoner until the reserves from the West Sixty-eighth Stret Station arrived in a response to a call for help sent from the hotel.

The negro had boarded the train at 140th Street. Miss Weiner, who lives at 2,445 Eighth Avenue, said that as the train was nearing the Eighty-first station she felt a tug at the pocket and missed her pocketbook in which there was $3. She saw the negro beside her but was afraid to make an outcry. As the train reached the Eighty-first station Adams started to leave and Miss thief," and pointing at the negro. It seemed as if the entire train was emptied as the negro leaped over the turnstile at the station and down the steps with the crowd in pursuit.

SAVAGERY IN GOTHAM.

Negro Nearly Lynched in Home of Society For Colored Folks.

NEW YORK, April 11.—Forrest Adams, a giant negro, narrowly escaped [illegible] at the hands of a mob of nearly 500 men and women today after he had been accused by a young woman on an elevated train of stealing her pocketbook. Fleeing down the stairs of an elevated station with almost every passenger on the train in pursuit, Adams ran into the arms of Patrolman Walker.

"Lynch him," "string him up," "give me a gun and I'll kill him," were some of the cries he heard as the crowd surged about him.

Patrolman Walker took his prisoner into the basement of a nearby hotel and held the crowd at bay with his pistol until reserves arrived in response to a riot call.

ROCHESTER N Y POST EXPRESS
JUNE 4, 1923

Lynching in New York State.

New Yorkers often rebuke the South for lynchings and for race wars. Yet one of the communities of the state has disgraced it by a race riot. In Tonawanda, on Friday night, the police had to rescue two colored men who had been beaten almost to death by a mob. The attack of the mob began when a colored man stopped a white man and asked him for a match. It is explained that since the days of the Civil war no colored persons had lived in either of the Tonawandas until recently, when a steel company imported colored laborers from the the South.

No excuse can be offered for this outrage by the white mob in Tonawanda. Colored men and women have as much right in either of these thriving communities as have the whites. But there is always an element in every Northern community whose members think they are imitating the position of the better classes in the South when they profess aversion and active dislike to the negro. This element is, as is the element that commits the outrages upon negroes in the South, composed mostly of the lower, vicious members of the community. The better classes in the South are by no means hostile to the negro. They have a real liking for him as a servant or other worker and are disposed to encourage him to prosper along those lines. But there is an ignorant, vicious class in the South, as in every other community. Misinterpreting in their ignorance the exclusion of the negro from social relations with the better classes as hostility to the black race, these vicious people think to imitate these better classes by active hostility to the race. It is these haters of the negro that the ignorant Northerners imitate, not the better class of Southerners.

The authorities of Tonawanda of Niagara county should make some arrests for this outrage. Someone should be punished for the disgrace brought upon the state.

CROWD MOBS DRIVER AS TRUCK KILLS BOY

Chauffeur Beaten by Men and Women After Accident in Cherry Street.

3 OTHER FATALITIES IN DAY

Children Playing Ball Victims—Bereaved Mother Attacks Woman Car Owner In Court.

An enraged crowd of more than a hundred men and women vented its fury for ten minutes last night on Joseph Stinson, a chauffeur, of 2,139 Fifth Avenue after he had run down and killed Thomas Nicola, 5 years old, of 142 Cherry Street with a four-ton truck. The machine, owned by the Atlas Tin Works of 222-231 East 144th Street was being driven south on Cherry Street when it struck the lad, who was playing ball in front of his home.

The people of the neighborhood who were sitting on the stoops of their homes saw the car drag the body twenty feet before it was crushed by the front and rear wheel of the truck. When the car was stopped they rushed the driver, who had not left his seat, and began beating him with sticks and broom handles. When Detective Salvatore Inella came to Stinson's assistance the latter's thumb had been nearly bitten off by a woman in the crowd. The driver was taken to the Oak Street Station, where he was charged with homicide.

Louis Waldman, 7 years old, of 338 East Sixty-fifth Street, was killed when he was run over by an automobile driven by Anthony De Sranco of 231 East Twentieth Street. Louis was playing at the corner of Second Avenue and Sixty-second Street when the machine, owned by Joseph Fried & Sons of 536 East Seventy-first Street, struck him. Patrolman Sheean of the East Sixty-seventh Street Statiton commandeered a passing truck, which carried the boy to Flower Hospital, where he was pronounced dead.

Playing on the streets claimed a third victim when Joseph Dobias, 5 years old of 1,072 Simpson Street, the Bronx was run down by a taxicab after he had darted in front of the machine to recover a ball. The machine, driven by William Frater, 46, of 1,053 Simpson Street the Bronx, was going south on Fox Street. The accident occurred at Fox and 167th Streets. Frater was locked up at the Simpson Street Police Station on a technical charge of homicide.

A motor truck owned by Frederick M. Schildwachte, an ice dealer of 4.130 Park Avenue, the Bronx, and operated by his son Frederick of 800 East 175th Street, the Bronx, struck and instantly killed John Boyle, 6, of 414 East 163d Street, the Bronx, yesterday morning.

According to witnesses the boy, who was playing at the Melrose Station of the New York Central Railroad, 162d Street and Park Avenue, darted in the path of the truck which was northbound on Park Avenue. Schildwachter was taken to the Morrisania Police Station, where he was questioned by Assistant District Attorney William Henderson.

Mrs. Fay Grueber, 23 years old, of 356 West 145th Street, was leaving the Homicide Court yesterday, after having been held in $2,500 bail for examination in connection with the killing of 5-year-old Anna Gendick Saturday night by her automobile, when Mrs. Ethel Gendick, mother of the victim of the accident, attempted to attack her. Policemen and Court attendants intercepted Mrs. Gendick in the courtroom as she ran after Mrs. Grueber shouting: "You killed my little girl." Later in the hall outside of the courtroom, the mother again tried to get at Mrs. Grueber, but she was restrained until the latter drove away in her car.

Policeman Weidig of the West 152d Street Station arraigned Mrs. Grueber before Magistrate W. Bruce Cobb on Court that Mrs. Gruber's car struck the suspicion of homicide. He told the little girl in West 145th Street near Broadway where Anna and several other girls were playing near her home at 506 West 145th Street. The Magistrate said he would hold a hearing on the charge on July 18.

N Y C CALL
JUNE 6, 1923

GUN HOLDS OFF LYNCHING MOB

Cries of Slain Child's Mother Egg on 1,000 Against Motorman.

Egged on by the screams of a distracted mother, an angry mob of nearly 1,000 men and women almost lynched Motorman William Mooney of 1664 Park avenue yesterday after he had run over and killed Solomon Silzerberg, two, of 311 East 99th street. Only the forceful action of Patrolman Root of the West 104th street police station who, after calling for the reserves, marched through the mob with drawn revolver and held them off, saved Mooney.

The child was playing on a sandbank bordering the trolley tracks at Second avenue and 99th street when he stepped off suddenly. Mariano Santani of 1905 Second avenue saw the child's perilous condition and leaped to his rescue but before Mooney could stop the car both were dragged more than eight feet. The boy was pinned under the car and when the ambulance surgeon arrived he was dead. Santani suffered internal injuries.

At the police station Mooney was freed after a brief investigation showed that he did all in his power to prevent the accident.

N Y C SUN
JULY 12, 1923

BROADWAY MOB IN NEAR LYNCHING BEE

Help Soldiers Catch Negro Who Spoke to Girl.

Columbus Circle, the neighborhood that never goes to sleep, experienced the thrill of a near lynching about 2:30 this morning. A young girl had been approached by a negro, according to two soldiers who saw the incident. They dashed forward as protectors. The negro dashed away. The men in khaki dashed after him. And the army of park bench occupants and "floaters" constantly present in that neighborhood dashed along in the rear. Most of the pursuing party didn't know what the excitement was all about, but nevertheless they yelled:

"Lynch him! String him up!"

Things looked tough for the colored man.

But the soldiers caught the fleer, saved him nobly from the crowd and turned him over to the police, who, evidently bored after they learned the negro only had spoken to the girl, spirited him away and no arrests were made.

The soldiers whose chivalry caused the excitement were Sergeant Thomas Madden, Company A, Eighteenth Infantry, in the city looking things over on a furlough from Camp Dix, and Private Arthur Gernant, 212th Artillery, New York National Guard, which has a recruiting station at the base of Christopher Columbus's well known monument. Gernant was on guard duty over the big guns and other property of his unit. Things were pretty dull, as no one seemed inclined to run away with any of the two ton cannon. Private Gernant was getting sleepy when Sergeant Madden came along and stopped for a chat.

They happened to glance across the Circle toward the Maine Memorial. They saw a young girl of about 19. A negro approached her and spoke to her. The girl screamed and ran. The soldiers shouted, too, and ran toward the negro, happy that some excitement had come their way.

The negro hopped across Columbus Circle "on high" and skidded into Eighth avenue without applying his brakes. He was hitting on every cylinder of his No. 11 shoes. The soldiers warmed to the chase. They made enough noise to awaken sleeping citizens on the park benches. People sprang up on all sides and joined the "man hunt." Their recent snores gave place to cries for blood.

Out of the many restaurants came

other folks more awake and more intert on seeing violence rampant. By the time Soldiers Madden and Gernant had overhauled the frightened negro the crowd at their heels numbered nearly a thousand. With difficulty they saved the negro from manhandling by the mob. Policemen quickly appeared and fought their way to the negro's side.

Another cop came along with the girl in tow. When it was discovered she could not speak English and had not understood what the colored man said to her, and as his acts were only vocal, the officers smuggled him into a police Ford and got him away. No record of the case was made at either the West Forty-seventh street or West Sixty-eighth street station.

DETECTIVES ARE SAVED FROM MOB IN HARLEM

NEW YORK, June 30.—Bloodshed, as the result of an early morning riot was narrowly averted yesterday.

The trouble came about as the result of a fight between two white men and two colored. Detective Winterhalter had placed the four men under arrest and started for the station when a mob of several hundred "All Nighters" blocked his path and forced him to rap for help. It took several scores of reserves to disperse the crowd.

Lynchings — 1923
Side Lights.

North Carolina.

1527

GETS $20,000 FORTUNE, BUT SEES LYNCHING ON WAY HOME

John E. Gilmore Home From Claiming Big Inheritance in Birmingham, Ala.

SEES MOB LAW WORK

Local Expressman Also Saw Hundreds Board Train for the North

Afro-American

How does it feel to come into possession of $20,000 unexpectedly?

Except in the dreams of the poverty stricken, that question anyone can ask John E. Gilmore, 932 Stricker street, an expressman, who returned to Baltimore Saturday from Birmingham, Ala., where he claimed a $20,000 estate left him by a grandfather who he never saw and never knew existed.

Gilmore's aged relative, Hiram Reeves, 98 years old, died in December, 1922, leaving his big farm, three houses with stock and equipment, to his grandson "somewhere up North." Lawyers immediately began the search for the unknown heir.

TRAIL LED TO ATLANTIC CITY

The trail led through North Carolina, where Gilmore formerly lived and where he still has relatives, up to Atlantic City, where another Gilmore of the same family is at present on the police force and through him the rich heir was located in Baltimore.

Overjoyed with the good news, Gilmore immediately boarded the train for the South last week and filed the necessary claim before Orphans Court of Alabama, and with his title to the property immediately received an offer of $20,000. Orphans Court advised him not to sell immediately as he could get a better price.

LYNCHING IN N. C.

Returning home he stopped to visit relatives in Salisbury, N. C., and witnessed there a lynching of a colored man by a mob of several hundred whites last Wednesday. The charge against the alleged criminal could not be learned, but he saw the mob and heard the shouts of the mob when they took him on the outskirts of town to string up.

In the station were four hundred colored men with tickets in hand crowding to get aboard a train going North to the Pennsylvania and Ohio industrial field. Anxious to keep all colored workers in the South, the whites patrolled the station with rifles and revolvers attempting to intimidate them.

Gilmore said he saw tickets taken from the hands of some men, torn up by whites and thrown on the station floor. Of the big crowd in the station, 195 succeeded in getting on the train.

SALISBURY, N. C., Truth

MAY 26 1923

BALTIMORE NEGRO CONCOCTS TALE OF A LYNCHING HERE

And Negro Newspaper Plays Up Story, Along With Other Outrages That Never Occurred.

No more slanderous, infamous and libelous accusation has ever been sent broadcast in print about any part of the South than that appearing in The Afro-American, a negro newspaper published in Baltimore, Md., of date of Friday, May 25, 1923, and which tells as a fact of the lynching of a negro man in Salisbury, N. C., this week and of armed white men patrolling the passenger station here to prevent negroes of this community from boarding a train to join the exodus of negro laborers now leaving many points in the South for the North.

The article discovered here yesterday afternoon is carried as a part of a "news" story of John E. Gilmore, negro, of 932 Stricker street, Baltimore, having made a trip to Birmingham, Ala., to claim legacy of $20,000 alleged to have been left him by a relative, and the Salisbury part of the story, which is played up on first page under glaring headlines across the entire page, is carried under a sub-head entitled, "Lynching in N. C."

After having quoted the negro Gilmore on the legacy story and other things, the paper, which is a 16 page publication and one of the leading negro newspapers of the country, goes on to relate his tale of the lynching and other awful occurrences which he witnessed when he stopped over in Salisbury to visit relatives. No more deliberate lie was ever purposely concocted than the story of this man, who is referred to in the negro paper as Gilmore. Here is the Salisbury part of the story, word for word, as it appeared in The Afro-American:

"Returning home he stopped to visit relatives in Salisbury, N. C., and witnessed there a lynching of a colored man by a mob of several hundred whites last Wednesday. Thec harge against the alleged criminal could not be learned, but he saw the mob and heard the shouts of the mob when they took him on the outskirts of the town to string him up.

"In the station were four hundred colored men with tickets in hand, crowding to get aboard a train going north to the Pennsylvania and Ohio industrial fields. Anxious to keep all colored workers in the South the whites patrolled the station with rifles and revolvers, attempting to intimidate them.

"Gilmore said he saw tickets taken from the hands of some men, torn up by the whites and thrown on the station floor. Of the big crowd in the station 195 men succeeded in getting on the train."

Now the only thing wrong with this story is that it is a lie from the first word to the last, and why any man could deliberately manufacture such stuff is beyond comprehension. Not only has there been no trouble of any sort between the races in this city but there has been none in this section and so far as can be recalled here there has not even been a lynching in the South, in some time, certainly none that could be confused with the story related above. Not only that, but so far as known here no Salisbury negroes have left here for the north recently, if so it has only been one or two going as individuals and no one knew of it, not to say anything of any effort to forcibly prevent their departure.

Gilmore could not possibly have been mistaken, or the paper mistaken, in the name of the city where the alleged lynching took place for no such occurrence has happened anywhere in North Carolina or other place.

The Afro-American has a wide circulation among the negroes of the country and quite a number copies come to Salisbury. Since the article referred to has become known here it had caused a great deal of talk and has greatly incensed numbers of people, as well as leading negroes. When the article was called to the attention of Postmaster Boyden he at once announced that he was going to take the matter up with the postoffice department and if there was any way by which those responsible, either by publication or causing to be published such damaging and deliberate falsehoods against a city or community and the distribution through the United States mails of this slander upon this city could be punished the matter would be pushed to the full extent of the federal laws.

Last evening Mr. Boyden took the matter up with a number of leading negroes here and they expressed regret and indigation over the false report and stated that they would immediately take steps to deny it publicly as far as possible.

Keep Records Straight.

The Colored Ministerial association of Salisbury this morning forwarded the following letter to the editor of the Afro-American, denouncing the news story:

"While we in the south as well as our friends at the north want wrong and injustice exposed to the last degree, yet we feel that no good can come to white or black by misrepresentation. In your issue of May 25, we noticed an article contributed by John E. Gilmore, of 932 Stricker street, Baltimore, Md., in which he alleges that he witnessed on last Wednesday, presumably May 23, in the city of Salisbury, N. C., the lynching of a colored man by a white mob. He further alleges that he saw four hundred colored men with tickets in hand seeking to board north bound trains; that whites patrolled the station with rifles and revolvers attempting to intimidate the colored men; that he saw white men snatch tickets from the hands of colored men and tear them up; that out of the four hundred about one hundred and ninety-five succeeded in getting on the train.

'How your informant ever got such an impression on his visit to our city we are at a loss to say. There is not one scintilla of truth in the report. We can not account for the machinations of your informants' mind unless it be that he was unduly exercised over the $20,000 estate recently possessed in Birmingham, Ala., and all things were seen through magnifying glasses by him. It has been more than sixteen years since our city was disgraced with a lynching. For the past several years the relations between the races here have been most friendly.

'Again, we wish to say, that while we don't condone the lynch evil for a moment, we do hope the editors will hesitate to publish such glaring stories until they have been verified."

LYNCHING REPORT BRANDED FALSE BY ASSOCIATION

Salisbury, N. C., May 26.—"We do hope the editors will hesitate to publish such glaring stories until they have been verified," is the closing sentence of a letter sent today by the colored ministerial association of this city to the Afro-American, negro weekly published at Baltimore, denying that a lynching and other racial disturbances had taken place here last Wednesday as reported in the columns of the paper.

The association's letter declared that relations between the two races at Salisbury have been most friendly and that no trouble of any kind has occurred.

Alleged Murderer Captured After All-Night Hunt

Rocky Mount, N. C., July 1.—After an all night man hunt, officers are certain tonight that they have one of the two negroes who killed W. [illegible] Bigelow and seriously wounded W. [illegible] Andrews, proprietor of a store, late last night. The two men were closing up for the night when the negroes said to have been hiding in the store, opened fire on them. After rifling cash drawer, the negroes made their getaway, supposedly on a passing freight train.

Feeling ran high and posses of citizens joined officers in the search which extended for many miles. At Selma a pitched battle is reported to have occurred on top of a freight car, both the negroes escaped.

The negro captered today gaves his name as Jim Jones, but letters found on him indicate that he has been [illegible] of Dunn. He was taken to an unnamed destination for safekeeping.

URGE PINCHOT TO DISHONOR EXTRADITION

Man Who Escaped Mob Vengeance, in South in 1921, Makes Final Plea, Through Local Attorney, Against Being Sent Back to North Carolina.

Two years ago, Dock McCoy, now in jail in this city, fled from North Carolina, his native home, to escape the vengeance of a blood-thirsty mob, which had come to mete out "lynch-law," because McCoy had been "reported" as being the man responsible for a murder.

But this week, in Harrisburg, Attorney Frank R. Steward, backed by the citizenry of Pennsylvania will wage a far bigger battle than that waged by McCoy when he "escaped", in an effort to prove to Governor Pinchot that the North Carolina extradition papers should not be honored, that if they are honored, McCoy will be sent back to his death at the end of a hangman's noose.

If Governor Pinchot allows the mob to come into Pennsylvania, take an innocent man away and deliver him to the North Carolina officials, then, the state does not afford safety for innocent men. Three governors have set a fine precedent for Governor Pinchot to follow. They are Governor Allen of Kansas, Governor Groesback of Michgan and Governor McCall of Massachusetts. They refused to feed the mobs by granting papers of extradition and they were commended and applauded for their stand.

History of McCoy Case

McCoy according to all available evidence is innocent of the crime, and this fact is attested to because of those who aided him to escape.

Back in November, 1921, Rufus Beard, a white man, was found dead in his wagon, which was being drawn along the road by Beard's horse. The dead man was discovered when the wagon got to the edge of the little town near Wilson, N. C., where the principals in the tragedy lived.

The fire of excitement was quickly fanned into a destructive blaze, when bloodhounds, put on the trail of the wagon, traced it back to the home of Ned Morgan, a colored man. Immediately, thoughts of lynching entered into the minds of the crowd. When Morgan's wife was questioned as to where her husband's shotgun was located, they were informed that the gun had been loaned out to another to hunt rabbits.

Flees Lynchers

The mob proceeded to the home of this man, whose name was Andrews. Nothing tangible could be ascertained, s Henry Morgan, father of the owner of the gun was arrested. An attempt was made to lynch him on spot, but he escaped the fury of the mob by implicating McCoy as the murderer.

McCoy, at the time, was working some distance away and the mob ran over to the stone quarry where he was employed, with the intention of carrying out their evil designs. Fellow employes warned him of the presence of the mob and he made good his escape to Pennsylvania.

McCoy left, not because he was guilty, as he steadfastly maintains his innocense but because he knew his life was indanger of mob violence. His leaving, of course was taken by the mob to mean that he was guilty of murder. Any man who refused to be lynched is always guilty for that very reason. This is the reason given by the mob. McCoy is innocent of the crime. He was two miles away from the scene of the killing and working at the time it happened.

Supported By Facts

Attorney Frank R. Steward is supported by facts and circumstances which ought to meet the hearty approval at the hands of Governor Pinchot. If McCoy is sent back just because the mob ran away, and this seems to be the real truth of it, our governor will place us in a most humiliating position among states of the Union. We hape he will not appease the mob.

VICTIM IDENTIFIES NEGRO ASSAILANT

Raleigh, N. C., October 3.—John Goff was identified here today by the aged white woman of near Spruce Pine, N. C., as the negro who attacked her last week. Goff denied the crime and declared he had never seen the woman. The woman was accompanied by her husband and a Mitchell county deputy sheriff. The deportation of negroes at Spruce Pine followed the alleged attack, and Governor Morrison ordered troops there to preserve order.

Goff, an escaped convict, was arrested near Morganton and brought to the penitentiary here for safe keeping. The aged woman visited the state's prison this morning where she identified the negro.

NEW YORK CITY NEWS
NOVEMBER 8, 1923

LASHED, NOT LYNCHED

Raleigh, N. C., Nov. 7.—Asking protection from threats of lynching tonight, Hays Henry, colored, appeared at the jail here this afternoon suffering from forty lashes as a result of a beating.

NEGRO CONFESSED BEFORE END TODAY IN ELECTRIC CHAIR

Lee Washington, Nash County Negro, Pays Penalty For His Crime

RALEIGH, Dec. 28.—After making a complete confession of his crime to Warden Busbee of state prison, Lee Washington, 20-year-old negro, convicted in Nash county of an attack upon a white woman at Momeyer, N. C., today was electrocuted at the prison. The confession was made yesterday afternoon. Three shocks of brief duration were necessary before the man was pronounced dead. The execution was witnessed by the husband of the attacked woman and about a score of persons from Nash county.

Washington was sentenced to die in the electric chair after his conviction at Nashville of an attack upon a white woman of Nash county. The crime was committed on November 9. Citizens and posses were organized and he was captured after a 12 hour hunt. Governor Morrison ordered troops to proceed from Wilson to Nashville to give the man protection, but they were stopped en route at Rocky Mount when it was learned that the negro had been removed to a neighboring county.

He was tried December 1 at Nashville and being found guilty was sentenced to electrocution. Governor Morrison sent troops to Nashville during the trial to prevent a possible outbreak and later was criticised in resolutions adopted by the officials at that place. To this criticism the executive replied that he intended to use the power vested in him to stamp out lynchings and that he always would send troops whenever he thought that their presence would prevent mob outrages.

Lynchings—1923.
Side Lights.

North Carolina.

1513

Governor Morrison

Governor Morrison of North Carolina is to be commended for his prompt and courageous manner in handling the threatened outbreak of violence at Spruce Pine., Uncontrolled temper must be met with stringent measures and the musket and bayonet in the hands of the militia are far more effective in the procurement of law and order when a community becomes rampageous than official pedantic inhibitions.

A Negro escaped convict from a road gang was alleged to have attempted an assault upon an aged white woman of the town of Spruce Pine. White citizens became enraged and hurriedly assembled a posse which set out on a scouring expedition for the alleged attacker. A highway construction gang of between seventy-five and eighty colored men in the pay of the State was working in the vicinity of the town. Members of the posse ordered these men to quit their jobs and leave the neighborhood post-haste for the sake of their own safety. They immediately obeyed. Governor Morrison was apprised of the situation and at once wired the authorities of the county that the rights of all the citizens would be protected and the law would be upheld. 10-6-23

Action immediately followed these words. Adjutant General J. Van B. Metts and companies F. and B., of the North Carolina National Guard were dispatched to the scene of excitement with orders to protect the rights of all the citizens white and colored. The guardsmen arrived at the turbulent little town and set about rounding-up the fleeing workmen to escort them back to their jobs and to protect them in the pursuance of their work even at the point of bayonets.

Norfolk, Va.

It makes no difference that the expelled men were engaged on state work, the action of the Governor is the kind that commands respect for the majesty of the law.

This thing of issuing vacating edicts to whole communities of colored people is a form of law rapacity that is manifesting itself in our body politic with increasing frequency The only way to stop it and the only way to protect the rights of the groups against whom the expulsions are directed is to make it at once apparent that these people are safe in remaining where they are. They can get but little solace out of the declaration that the power of the State will be exercised to protect them when the machinery for executing that power is a long way off and their lives are immediately endangered.

No Evidence To Show That Negro Is Guilty

East Tennessee News
Knoxville, Tenn.
10-4-'23.

Special To The News.

Hickory, N. C., Oct. 2.—Mountaineers for miles around the little hamlet of Spruce Pine got word that a "nigger" would be lynched and when they filled up on the intoxicating liquor known in this section as "white mule," they rushed into the town, using every conceivable means of conveyance. The boisterous drunks were disappointed and determined to engage in rioting, they invaded a Negro camp where a hundred Negroes are engaged in road building, and proceeded to drive the laborers away.

Bitter opponents to A. N. Fuller, recently elected mayor of Spruce Pine, took advantage of the opportunity to intimidate the mayor, especially after he had sent a wire to Governor Morrison requesting that he send a company of the state militia to preserve order and protect the law-abiding Negroes who were engaged in work for the state on the highway through the town.

GOVERNOR ACTS IMMEDIATELY

Two units of the national guard were immediately dispatched to the town and the crowd of hoodlums that assembled on the outskirts were dispersed. The Negro laborers who hurriedly left the place were sent word that they could return and that they would be protected, are now at work as the soldiers are patrolling the streets.

NO EVIDENCE OF NEGRO HAVING COMMITED CRIME

The report that a Negro had attacked an aged white woman gained circulation the latter part of the week. John Goff, a young Negro who had just finished serving a workhouse sentence, was accused of the crime, although no evidence was offered the mob that Goff was the guilty party. The mountains were searched, but no trace of the Negro was found. He was later arrested and sent to the state prison for safe keeping.

MOB POSED FOR PHOTOGRAPH

As the mob of mountain drunks paraded through the streets of Spruce Pine, armed with shot guns, rifles and pistols, they assembled in a block of one of the main streets and posed for a photograph. Judge Bisray, of the Superior court, said today that the Mitchell county grand jury will be asked to return indictments against the men who participated in the mob activities and that the photograph would be used as evidence.

Durham, N. C.
Morning Herald
SEP 30 1923

THE SPRUCE PINE AFFAIR.

The Spruce Pine situation is one that will have to handled with tact. Those hardy mountaineers are a determined lot, and once they fully make up their minds, it is rather difficult to change them, and an iron-hand appeal only makes them more determined. Their feeling against the negro is not one born of present excitement. It is the growth of years, in fact, the memory of man runneth not to the time when the colored man was welcomed in a certain section of the mountains. One case of that feeling is related by the Raleigh correspondent by Andrew Joyner, veteran newspaper man. A quarter of a century ago, Joyner and the late J. C. Buxton were traveling in the mountain section of the state, being driven by a negro man. They were met by a delegation of natives and told to "beat it" and they proceeded to beat it. Though they were on a campaign in advocacy of depriving the negroes of the ballot, those mountain people doubted the campaigners' sincerity because they had a negro driver with them. It is an old legend that signs decorated the roads in several western counties warning negroes not to let the setting sun find them in that county. Negroes and revenue officers are not wanted in Mitchell and a few other counties in that section of the state, and the unwelcome visitors are likely to find large hunks of trouble.

There is not a more honest or better citizen in the world than among the people of Mitchell, Avery and one or two other counties, but they don't see things in the same light that many other people do. They are firmly convinced that the negro is a menace, and they are not going to permit him around. Because of the lack of opportunity for understanding the negro they have, in many instances, a wrong impression of him, and as that impression is deep-seated, the result of many years of growth, no ordinary means will change their attitude. If they have made up their minds that negro laborers are not to be permitted in their community, it would be unwise to try to force them to accept the negro. But, if tact is used, the situation is capable of being satisfactorily relieved.

Governor Morrison is not famous for tact. He is a man who uses sledge-hammer methods in carrying a point. But in this particular case he would get better results by using other methods. Those mountain folk are the descendants of those who turned back the British

at Kings Mountain and Ramseur's Mill, and they still hold many of the same determined traits of character and courage and love of doing somewhat as they please that their forefathers possessed. They can be led, but are not tractable under the lash. The heinous crime which is laid at the door of a negro and which has caused immediate menacing situation at Spruce Pines merely confirms the mountaineer's opinion of the menace that the presence of the negro brings. It is a case of where unfamiliarity breeds suspicion.

Governor Morrison is right in upholding the authority of the state. It would be disastrous were he to permit a small community baffle the state's power. But, the Governor should be fully acquainted with the sort of people he has to deal with, and should have a full understanding of their views and prejudices, and then proceed along lines that would both protect the interests of the state without further increasing the prejudice already existing among those peoples.

Back in the days of the world war the people of a certain section of the mountains were reported as being out of sympathy with the government's war policy, and were not giving cooperation to the draft laws. Open threats were reported, and all sorts of wild rumors were afloat, some of them indicating a stage bordering on rebellion. Governor Bickett, against the advice of some of his friends, went into the mountain districts, talked with those people, reasoned with them, made them see the light, and nothing further was heard of the open opposition to the draft system. Not only that, but the young men of the mountains went to service and made a heroic record. If Bickett had tried bluff and bluster on them, he would not have achieved success He used tact, and won.

The Charlotte Observer brings out two important facts in the Spruce Pine affair, one being that the crime which aroused the people is the first in the history of that community; and second; that the Governor of the state took prompt measures to protect the negroes, the latter being in splendid contrast to the treatment afforded negroes in Johnstown, Pa. The Observer, being familiar with the characteristics of the people of that section of the state, is in a good position to understand the Spruce Pine affair, and discusses it in the following interesting manner:

"The mountain counties of this state have but few negro residents—in one county the Census takers could find but three—but the few that live there are quiet, orderly and well-behaved. They are seldom in the courts and are held in respect by the white natives. The incoming of negroes has never been regarded with favor, and when construction work was begun on the state highway in the vicinity of Spruce Pine. there was a disposition on part of the white people to resent the invasion of the negroes it was necessary for the contractor to take into employment on the work. There was no open resistance, however, and matters were going along smoothly until one day this week, when information got out that an aged white woman of the neighborhood, walking along the public road, had been attacked and assaulted by an unknown negro. Nothing like that had ever happened there before. The circumstance aroused the blood of the natives and determined search was made for the criminal. Meantime, excited groups of people gathered with the purpose of ridding the section of all the imported negroes. The highway contractor was notified to move his camp and take the negroes with him, while the negro population that had drifted in was loaded on box cars and sent out of the town. The mountain blood is bad when it is aroused, and it was certainly stirred over an occurrence such as had never been attempted in that part of the state. Information of the state of affairs was promptly forwarded Governor Morrison and he lost no time in dispatch of the required military security to the vicinity. It was supposed that the highway camp was moved out of the section before troops could arrive, and in that event, the Governor will have it brought back and established on the old basis, with full protection given the negro labor. In the event the criminal is caught, whatever may be within the power of the state, through its military organization to protect him and secure a trial through the due process of the law, will be done.

"This, in brief, constitutes the story of the disturbance in and around the little mountain town of Spruce Pine. The action of the state is in striking contrast to the action of constituted authority in Pennsylvania, when the negro population in the two towns was ordered to pack up and get out, with no crime of the kind attending the Spruce Pine uprising back of it. The Pennsylvania authorities did not send troops to Johnstonw and Norristown to protect the rights of the negro population The affair at Spruce Pine had scarcely developed when the Governor of North Carolina had troops on the way to protect the rights of the negroes and to establish and maintain order.

CHARLOTTE, N. C. Observer

SEP 29 1923

THE SPRUCE PINE DISTURBANCE.

The mountain counties of this State have but few negro residents—in one county the Census takers could find but three—but the few that live there are quiet, orderly and well-behaved. They are seldom in the courts and are held in respect by the white natives. The incoming of negroes has never been regarded with favor, and when construction work was begun on the State highway in the vicinity of Spruce Pine. there was a disposition on part of the white people to resent the invasion of the negroes it was necessary for the contractor to take into employment on the work. There was no open resistance, however, and matters were going along smoothly until one day this week, when information got out that an aged white woman of the neighborhood, walking along the public road, had been attacked and assaulted by an unknown negro. Nothing like that had ever happened there before. The circumstance aroused the blood of the natives and determined search was made for the criminal. Meantime, excited groups of people gathered with the purpose of ridding the section of all the imported negroes. The highway contractor was notified to move his camp and take the negroes with him, while the negro population that had drifted in was loaded on box cars and sent out of the town. The mountain blood is bad when it is aroused, and it was certainly stirred over an occurrence such as had never been attempted in that part of the State. Information of the state of affairs was promptly forwarded Governor Morrison and he lost no time in dispatch of the required military security to the vicinity. It was supposed that the highway camp was moved out of the section before troops could arrive, and in that event, the Governor will have it brought back and established on the old basis, with full protection given the negro labor. In the event the criminal is caught, whatever may be within the power of the State, through its military organization to protect him and secure a trial through the due processes of the law, will be done.

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CHARLOTTE, N. C. Observer

SEP 29 1923

ANSWER TO THE CAPTAIN.

The organization known as the National Association for Advancement of Colored People, with headquarters in New York, is one of the most officious of the sort in the country. It projects itself into all affairs in which the negro is concerned, without awaiting revelation of related conditions. It made instant interference at Tuskegee, only to discover that matters there were being worked out in line with its own ideas of what the situation should be, and it was insistent in the affairs at Johnstown and Norristown, but a little more respectful in the manner of its approach. It heard of a wild state of affairs in the North Carolina mountain town of Spruce Pine and telegraphed the Governor of this State to know what he was going to do about it, calling upon him to "exercise his power." The Governor had already done that, and he advised the association that it could keep fully informed by reading the newspaper reports. The negroes in North Carolina, knowing Governor Morrison and his record, will be agreed in the proposition that he made answer to the negro captain of the National Association in becoming manner.

Lynchings—1923
Side Lights

Ohio.

1510

MOB-PURSUED MAN WHO FLED FROM HOUSE

Leaped from Window and Crowd Joined in Chase.

CINCINNATI TIMES STAR
MARCH 17, 1923

A negro, who registered as Frank [illegible], no home, was arrested Friday night after he had been pursued several blocks by a crowd of more than 500 persons.

Joseph Frauenhoffa heard a noise in the front room of his home at [illegible] Moore street, and entering the room saw a negro leap through the front window. He followed him and was joined in the pursuit by neighbors. By the time the negro reached McMicken avenue and Lang street his original pursuers had been augmented by hundreds of others. Lieutenant Juegling and District Detectives Schardt and [illegible], who were at the corner, caught the negro and took him to the police station.

A breast pin, found in his pocket, was identified by Mrs. Frauenhoffa as her property.

Lynchings – 1923
Side Lights

Pennsylvania.

1526

CHILD'S SLAYER LEADS POLICE TO HER BODY

Commercial Appeal Memphis, Tenn.

Prisoner Confesses to Assault on Little Girls

2-27-23

PHILADELPHIA, Feb. 26.—Wylie Morgan, the prisoner held in connection with the kidnaping, Saturday, of six-year-old Lillian Gilmore and her five-year sister, Dorothy, confessed tonight and led the detectives to a spot on a creek near Croydon, Pa., where the body of Lillian was found in a tree stump hole.

Her face showed signs of a terrible beating. A physical examination showed her jaw to have been broken in three places. Her arms, hands and lower limbs were cut and torn.

Police Lieut. Craig said Morgan had punched Lillian in the face until she died. Morgan's knuckles are skinned from contact with the girl's face.

The child's body was taken to the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Gilmore, in the Kensington district.

Beyond stating that he had kidnaped the children and thrown Lillian's body on the bank of the creek after having mistreated both, the police withheld details of Morgan's confession.

Shortly after the searching party returned to the city a large crowd surrounded the station house where Morgan was placed and for a time it was feared an attempt would be made to storm the building. The police, however, soon dispersed the crowds.

Little Dorothy Gilmore, whose story led to Morgan's arrest yesterday, had practically recovered tonight from her experiences.

Philadelphia Mob Attempts to Stone Murderer of Child

Atlanta Constitution
2/28/23

Philadelphia, February 27.—While a crowd of men and women on the street shouted for swift justice, Wylie F. Morgan, slayer of 6-year-old Lillian Gilmore, today was held without bail in a police station. When he was removed from the station to a prison van to be taken to city hall a shower of stones and other missiles were hurled at the frightened prisoner. No one was struck and no arrests were made.

Morgan's confession of kidnaping, attacking and killing the child, whom he took away with her 4-year-old sister, Dorothy, from near their home last Saturday in a motor car, was obtained by the police last night. Dorothy was returned home a few hours after the kidnaping. Lillian's body was found last night on the ice of Neshaminy creek, 20 miles from Philadelphia.

Fifty policemen stood guard in the hearing room of the stationhouse when Morgan was brought before a police magistrate.

PHILADELPHIA PA INQUIRER
JULY 17, 1923

CORRY TALKS LYNCHING

State Police Hunt Negro Road Worker Who Killed Chum

Special to The Inquirer.

CORRY, Pa., July 16.—George Ewing and Prince Edwards, negroes, employed on road construction work near Spartansburg and for days the best of friends quarrlled over money matters today.

Ewing drew a revolver and shot his chum through the heart killing him instantly. Threatening fellow workmen with his gun, Ewing strolled away leisurely, and came here where he is now in hiding. A posse headed by State troopers is searching for the murderer and he may be lynched if taken.

LOSING HOPE FOR FAIR TRIAL SOUTH, FLEES TO NORTH

St. Louis Union

PITTSBURGH, Pa., Oct. 6.— Extradition of Dock McCoy from the State of Pennsylvania to the town of Bailey, North Carolina, on charge of murder is being fought by Robert L. Vann, and Frank R. Stewart, Pittsburg attorneys, with the cooperation of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. Mr. Steward is President of the Advancement Association's Pittsburgh branch

McCoy fled from North Carolina in 1921, because he feared lynching at the hands of a mob, though asserting his innocence of the murder he is charged with.

St. Louis Mo.

At the request of Mr. Steward, the N. A. A. C. P., forwarded complete data on extradition cases and also telegraphed to Governor Pinchot of Pennsylvania, urging him to refuse extradition until proof of McCoy's innocence and of the danger of lynching if he were extradited, could be presented. At a hearing held in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, on September 19, at which Messrs. Vann and Steward appeared, the case was continued to October 2. Mr. Steward wrote as follows to the N. A. A. C. P: "I want to congratulate the Association for its prompt assistance in this matter. I received the data forwarded to Harrisburg and the same stood me in good stead.

10-13-23

The N. A. A. C. P. through agents in North Carolina is gathering facts bearing on the case.

PHILADELPHIA PA INQUIRER
SEPTEMBER 24, 1923

TWO MEN WOUNDED IN RACIAL CLASHES

Negro Beaten as Mob of 600 Resents Interference With Boys' Fight

White Man Shot During Riot at Twenty-third and Bainbridge Streets

Race riots in the southern section of the city sent two men to hospitals last night and kept police of the downtown districts busy quelling disturbances in which several hundred persons were involved.

In an effort to prevent a serious outbreak in the affected sections, police last night drove whites and blacks from street corners and effected a "keep-moving" edict wherever a knot of men gathered.

Trouble first cropped out at Moyamensing and Washington avenues yesterday afternoon, when a crowd of 600 men pursued a negro for several blocks, only to have him escape. Seeking a victim for their wrath, members of the mob then seized James Kenny, colored, of 326 Queen street, and beat him into unconsciousness.

The attempt of an unknown negro to interfere with a street fight between two white boys provided the incentive for the riot. Scores of men rushed at the would-be peacemaker and shouting loudly pursued him up Moyamensing avenue. Hundreds of others, hearing the shouts, joined the crowd. The negro darted into a side street and disappeared.

The leaders of the mob then seized Kenny and pummelled him severely. Riot calls to several nearby stations brought patrol wagonloads of police to the scene, and they forced their way through the crowd by active use of their clubs.

As the crowd scattered, Kenny was trampled, and he was taken to the Pennsylvania Hospital, where he is in a serious condition from the effects of the beating he received.

White Man Shot In Later Riot

A short time later the downtown police were called upon to quell a struggle between members of the battling races at Twenty-third and Bainbridge streets. A white man was shot during the disturbance.

A feud of long standing is said to have been responsible for the second outbreak. A number of negroes set upon Thomas Fisher, of 2426 Carpenter street. White men rallied to the aid of the attacked man and a pitched battle was staged in the middle of the street.

George Woodson, a negro, of Twenty-second and Reed streets, is alleged to have drawn a revolver during the melee and fired several shots at Fisher. One of the bullets took effect in the white man's right leg and he fell to the ground. Police of the Twentieth and Fitzwater streets station arrived on the scene at this juncture and routed the mob. Fisher was taken to the Polyclinic Hospital, while Woodson was arrested and held in $1500 bail for a further hearing by Magistrate Scott.

Lynchings—1923.
Side Lights.

Rhode Island.

1511

N Y C EVE WORLD
JULY 12 1923

POSSE PURSUES NEGRO FOR ATTACK ON NURSE

Narragansett Pier Arroused by Crime.

NARRAGANSETT PIER, R. I., July 11.—Police, firemen and a large posse of heavily armed citizens scoured the woods and swamps southwest of Narragansett Pier railroad station to-day in search of a Negro gardner, Thomas Johnson, who, in the absence of Mrs. Persifor Frazer, prominent in Philadelphia society, from her cottage, gagged and tied the Frazer nurse, Mrs. Llewellyn, who was in charge of the five-weeks-old Frazer baby, and attacked her.

The nurse broke from her bonds and went to a nearby home, where she collapsed. A general alarm was broadcast and Mrs. Frazer was notified at Scarborough Beach. She also collapsed on returning home.

The Negro robbed the house of a small amount of money and after leaving the house entered another nearby, from which he was frightened by the screams of children. He then escaped into the swamp, which was surrounded

Lynchings—1923
Side Lights.

South Carolina.

1512

Fear Lynching

COLUMBIA, S. C. Jan. 20.—It is feared that Thomas Johnson, who struck and killed Mrs. Laura Lancaster, white, here last week, will be lynched. Governor Harvey has been informed by the sheriff of the county of the impending disorder.

Charleston Evening Post 1-20-23

CITIZENS SEEKING FARMER'S SLAYER

Morning Constitution

Bloodhounds Secured From Hartwell Ga., to Trail Negro Suspect.

3/6/23

Anderson, S. C., March 5.—Hundreds of armed citizens today were searching the western part of Anderson county, between this city and the Georgia state line, for George Allen, negro, wanted on the charge of slaying Cecil Hall, a farmer, living 7 miles from here. Feeling is said to be running high in the community.

Bloodhounds, secured from Hartwell, Ga., a few miles from the Hall home, were unable to pick up the trail of the negro because of the fact that hundreds of persons had trampled the scene of the killing.

Reports received here today said that Mrs. Hall, the young wife of the dead man, witnessed the slaying. She ran to the assistance of her husband at the first blow and grasped the hoe with which the negro was striking him, but not in time to prevent his being fatally injured.

LARGE POSSE PURSUES WOMAN'S ASSAILANT

Anderson, S. C. July 11.—Scores of citizens of Lavonia, Ga., last night and today searched sections of Georgia and South Carolina for a young white man who is alleged to have attacked a young woman at Lavonia late yesterday. A large band of men, heavily armed, came into Anderson this morning.

Police officials at Lavonia confirmed the story of the attack on the woman and both officers and the men who came here said that the name of the assailant was not known. The posses had only a meager description of the man on which to proceed.

The man was said to have been only a short distance ahead of the posse when he crossed the state line.

Orangeburg S.C. Times JUL 17 1923

Negro Charged With Criminal Assault

COLUMBIA, July 16.—Theo Walker, a negro, aged thirty-two, was brought to the state penitentiary Sunday for safekeeping following his arrest this morning at Belton on a charge of having criminally assaulted a young white woman late Saturday afternoon in the Piercetown section of Anderson County.

The assault occurred while the young woman was returning home from the field with her stepfather. The latter was walking slightly ahead of her and later discovered that his daughter was not in sight. He turned back and walking down the road a short distance, looked over into some underbrush and saw the young woman lying in an unconscious state. He states that the negro who committed the crime was sitting nearby. The negro, asked the stepfather who is seventy years of age, not to report the crime. As the stepfather continued to approach him the negro broke and ran. An armed posse quickly formed and a search for the negro begun.

Lynchings—1923
Side Lights

Tennessee

1509

Cafe Is Bombed; Tennessee Mob Uses Dynamite

Chicago Tribune

Watertown, Tenn., Jan. 12.—Tension between the races here is at a high pitch as a result of the blowing up of a restaurant belonging to a Race man here following following the shooting of Deputy Sheriff Coffee Oakley, 65, who sought to lead a mob against George Winton.

Clayton Winton, son of George, defended his father. The son was shot three times while fighting for his father. Despite his injuries, he was placed in jail, being spirited around several times to protect him from possible further outbreaks of the mob. 1/13/23

The restaurant that was dynamited was situated just a few feet off the public square. It was a sort of gathering place for the boys around town. It was demolished, but no one was injured. Neither has anyone been arrested in connection with the crime.

WOODEN COFFIN IS FURNISHED NEGRO

Montgomery Advertiser

Whites Turn Body of Lewis Douglas Over to Blacks For Burial

3-12-23

(Associated Press)

SPENCER, TENN., March 11.—Resting in a wooden coffin, provided by the white residents of the community, the body of Lewis Douglas, whose attempt to kill five persons at the home of Sam Haston Thursday morning resulted in his death last night at the hands of a sheriff's posse, was buried today. The body was carried in a truck to the little graveyard for negroes at Cummingsville. There it was turned over to three negro men, after the top had been nailed down. The whites left the negroes to fill in the grave.

The desire of some to destroy the body by flames was overruled by the majority of the citizens of the section.

Douglas was killed in the home of a tenant on the Haston estate, where he had gone in an effort to gain immunity from violence and prosecution.

"If I can't get this fixed up," he told the tenant, "this gun can." He carried a shotgun.

The negro shot and seriously injured five persons who were watching at the bedside of a dying woman in the Haston home early Thursday morning. Three of them were women. He was angered because he had been caught robbing a corn crib. He was chased by bloodhounds for two days, but shook off his pursuers, and returned to the scene of the crime. He was trapped by a sheriff's posse on his second visit to the farmer on the Haston estate, where he had obtained food at the point of a gun on Friday night.

NEGRO SHOT TO DEATH AT SCENE OF HIS CRIME

Commercial Appeal

Paroled Convict Who Shot Five Riddled by Deputies.

3/11/23

TWO-DAY CHASE ENDED

Lewis Douglas Returns to Spencer, Tenn., Where He Shot Quintet Keeping Death Watch, in Effort to "Fix It Up."

(By The Associated Press.)

NASHVILLE, Tenn., March 10.—Lewis Douglas, negro desperado, who shot and seriously wounded five persons, who were attending a death watch at Spencer, Van Buren County, Thursday morning, was shot to death at the home of a tenant on the property of Sam Haston, one of the victims, by deputies at 5:30 o'clock this afternoon.

The negro's death ended a two-day chase with bloodhounds which wound up within 100 yards of the place where he attempted to wipe out an entire family because he had been caught stealing from a corn crib.

Deputies Hide in House.

Last night Douglas entered the home of a white man named Manus, where he was later killed, and demanded food. He was still armed with the shotgun with which the five persons were shot. Manus fed him.

Douglas asked Manus to "fix it up" with the Hastons. He said he would come back again tonight to find out the answer.

Deputies were notified and secreted themselves in the house. The negro knocked on the door at 5:30 o'clock. He entered the room, still carrying his shotgun. He was riddled with bullets before he could move the gun to his shoulder.

His body is now lying outside the home in which he was killed. It is believed it will be burned.

The shooting of the fugitive was the climax of one of the most brutal tragedies in the annals of the state, the victims being shot down as they watched beside the bedside of a dying woman at the home of Sam Haston, brother of Tennessee's secretary of state. The man chase which followed led through two counties, but ended when the negro gave his pursuers the slip and returned to the scene of the crime.

MURDEROUS NEGRO ELUDES PURSUERS

Montgomery Advertiser

Posse Chasing Ex-Convict Who Tried to Wipe Out Family

3-9-23

(Associated Press)

NASHVILLE, TENN., March 8.—Slipping through the cordon of possemen which was guarding a farm house in which he had taken refuge three miles from Sparta, White county, Lewis Douglas, negro, who shot and wounded five persons at the home of Sam Haston, in Spencer, Vanburen county, at 3 o'clock this morning, was beating it for the near by mountains at midnight with bloodhounds close on his trail.

Five hundred armed citizens are pursuing the negro, whose efforts to exterminate the family of Sam Haston, brother of Tennessee's secretary of state, failed because of poor aim. Three members of Mr. Haston's family, including his mother, were injured. Two others who had gathered at the Haston home to be at the bedside of Mrs. Sam Haston, were also shot. Mrs. Haston, hovering between life and death, passed away during the tragedy without consciousness of it.

It was believed that the man hunt, which began early this morning and continued through the day over a tortuous course through mountains and valleys, was definitely ended when the trail ended at a farm house near Sparta. The posse decided to wait for reinforcements before storming the house. Before the forces arrived, the negro slipped out of the back way unseen and was off to the hills.

His course would lead him into the densely wooded mountains of Smith county, near the Kentucky line. It is believed his capture is a matter of hours, however.

Two members of the Haston family are in a serious condition tonight. Angered at having been reproved when caught attempting to rifle a corn crib he returned to the Haston home armed with a rifle.

BLOOD LUSTING MOB HUNTS LONE NEGRO.

Louisville News

With Ten Packs Of Bloodhounds Tennessee Whites Take Law In Own Hands.

3-17-23

Spencer, Tenn., March 16.—Hundreds of lawless whites are seeking Lewis Douglas, paroled Negro convict, who it is alleged, early this morning shot five persons, including members of the family of I. M. Haston, Secretary of the State of Tennessee. The fugitive is thought to be surrounded on a mountain about a mile from Sparta Tenn. Ten packs of bloodhounds are on his trail, in addition to the no less bloodthirsty mob of white hoodlums.

The Negro was found at 3:30 p. m. in a corn crib in the Haston home stealing corn and was ordered away. Apparently infuriated he got a shot gun and went to the home of Sam Haston, brother of the official, and tried to force an entrance.

Sam Haston was shot in the thigh and his mother, Mrs. George Haston in the head, Tullins Trogden got a load of buckshot in the eyes. Mrs. D. B. Shappero had her hands lacerized by shot as she attempted to shut the door. The fifth victim was an unnamed white about the place.

NEGRO WHO SHOT FIVE THURSDAY KILLED BY POSSE

Atlanta Constitution

Nashville, Tenn., March 10.—Lewis Douglas, negro desperado who shot and seriously wounded five persons who were attending a death watch at Spencer, Van Buren county, Thursday morning, was shot to death at the home of a tenant on the property of Sam Haston, one of the victims, by armed deputies this afternoon at 5:30 o'clock. 3/11/23

The negro's death ended a two-day chase with bloodhounds which wound up within 100 yards of the place where he attempted to wipe out an entire family because he had been caught stealing from a corn crib.

Last night Douglas entered the home of a white man named Manus, where he was later killed, and demanded food. He was still armed with the shotgun with which the five persons were shot. Manus fed him.

Douglas asked Manus to fix it up with the Hastons. He said he would come back again tonight to find out the answer.

Deputies were notified and secreted themselves in the house. The negro knocked on the door at 5:30 o'clock. He entered the room still carrying his shotgun. He was riddled with bullets before he could move the gun to his shoulder.

The shooting of the fugitive was the climax to one of the most brutal tragedies in the annals of the state, two men and two women being shot down as they watched bedside the bedside of a dying woman at the home of Sam Haston, brother of Tennessee's secretary of state. The man chase, which followed, led through two counties but ended when the negro gave his pursuers the slip and returned to the scene of the crime.

POSSES TRAIL NEGRO WHO WOUNDED FIVE

Atlanta Constitution

3-9-23

Five Hundred Citizens Hunt Tennessee Mountains for Paroled Convict.

Nashville, Tenn., March 8.—Slipping through the cordon of possemen which was guarding a farm house in which he had taken refuge, three miles from Sparta, White county, Lewis Douglas, negro, and paroled convict, who shot and wounded five persons at the home of Sam Haston, in Spencer, Van Buren county, at 3 o'clock this morning, was beating it for the nearby mountains at midnight with bloodhounds close on his trail.

Five hundred armed citizens are pursuing the negro whose efforts to exterminate the family of Sam Haston, brother of Tennessee's secretary of state, failed because of poor aim. Three members of Mr. Haston's family, including his mother, were injured. Two others who had gathered at the Haston home to be at the bedside of Mrs. Sam Haston, were also shot, Mrs. Haston, hovering between life and death, passed away during the tragedy without consciousness of it.

NEGRO GUNMAN EVADES POSSES

Houston Post
Houston, Tex.
3-10-23

Associated Press Report.

SPARTA, Tenn., March 9.—Straggling members of the posse pursuing Lewis Douglass, negro, who shot and seriously wounded five persons at Spencer, Tenn., near here, early Thursday morning, declared tonight they believed the negro had made his escape by boarding a passing train.

Despite the fact that approximately 1000 mountaineer posse men were in pursuit of the negro immediately after his attack, which was made while the victims were maintaing watch over a dying woman, his escape is apparently complete.

Sam Haston, probably the most seriously wounded of the five persons, may suffer amputation of a leg, as a result of wounds received, physicians declared. Three women, and another man, completing the list of wounded, will recover, it is thought.

TWO NEGRO SLAYERS ARE KILLED BY POSSE

Brothers Overtaken After Shooting Officer.

A THIRD UNDER ARREST

Bloodhounds Trail Bootleggers to Madison County Line and When Cornered, Pair Open Fire on the Posse—Killed Instantly.

BOLIVAR, Tenn., June 1.—Two negro whisky runners who killed Marshal George Holder when he tried to arrest them early yesterday, were shot to death by a Hardeman County posse near the Madison County line about 6 o'clock this evening. The negroes were brothers, Jesse and Otis Parham. A third brother, James Parham, is in jail here. All were from Benton County, Miss.

Bloodhounds from New Albany, Miss., trailed the negroes through the Hatchie River bottoms, through the county. Six men composed the posse which started in pursuit of the negroes about 2 o'clock yesterday afternoon.

Marshal Holder of Bolivar tried to arrest the trio on the street of Bolivar Wednesday night. They had liquor in sacks carried over their shoulders. They resisted and several shots were exchanged, but Mr. Holder succeeded in arresting James Parham.

After he had landed the negro in jail, he started in pursuit of other two brothers. Overtaking them on the Grand Junction-Asland Road, he circled through the woods and met them face to face in the road. The officer flashed his light in their faces and was shot down where he stood.

The negroes fled, taking to the Hatchie River bottoms. When news of the shooting reached Grand Junction a posse was hastily formed and took up the chase with bloodhounds. The dogs followed a trail north through the bottoms. The negroes stole some horses along the waw, but as the posse closed in they abandoned the animals and took to the backwaters of the river.

Members of the posse sighted the fugitives about 6 o'clock this evening. The negroes took refuge behind trees and opened fire on the posse. A fusillade of shots ended the short battle with both negroes being killed instantly.

NEGRO GIRL SLAYS AGED WHITE EMPLOYER

Cuts Him Down With Axe Midst Family at Breakfast After Her Discharge.

Special to The New York Times.

CHATTANOOGA, June 20.—James T. Darwin, 65 years old, a wealthy farmer of Evensville, died this afternoon from wounds inflicted with an axe by Josie Cox, a negress, 17 years old, who attacked him Monday when he discharged her as cook for stealing late. She has been brought here for safekeeping.

Following her discharge Mr. Darwin himself prepared the breakfast for his family and all were at table when the door opened suddenly and the infuriated girl rushed in, an aex in her hand. Before any one could interfere she swung the axe at Darwin. The first blow cut off his nose and a second crushed his skull and knocked him to the floor. The negress then ran out of the room.

She had been married and divorced. She is thought to have been dissipating on the night preceding her discharge. She is slight and immature.

"EXTREMELY POLITE" MOB FAILS TO FIND "UPPISH" NEGRO WHO KILLED WHITE

Tenn., Colored Man Disliked For Being "Above Ordinary In Intelligence." Forced To Kill White Man In Self Defense.

11-4-23

Associated Negro Press.

DRESDEN, Tenn., Nov. 7.—A mob described as being "extremely polite" and which treated the sheriff with the utmost courtesy, visited the Weakly county jail a few nights ago, at 1 o'clock in search of Murshell Oliver, Negro farm hand, charged with the shooting to death of Will Stunson. Oliver had already been given a hearing, bonded to the extent of $7,500 and spirited away. The nice mob was permitted to search the jail to the terror of a number of other prisoners, and left when it was finally convinced that Oliver was not there. It is said that an investigation of its action will be made although there was no disturbance.

Oliver killed the white man when the latter came to his (Oliver's) home to make some inquiries, and started beating the Negro with a bridle. Most of the white folks in the district did not like Oliver because he seemed to be "uppish" to them. They describe him as being "above the ordinary Negro in intelligence." He is said to have admitted killing the white man when the latter cornered him so that he could not run away. After the shooting Oliver fled, but he returned a few days later and gave himself up to another white man for whom he had worked a number of years. At the time of the killing he was working for Stunson, the dead man, known as a bully and a hard taskmaster.

NEGRO DOCTOR ON TRIAL

Gives Hearing in Case in Which White Man Figures.

MURFREESBORO, TENN., October 26.—J. W. Lenhore, negro doctor indicted jointly with Neville Sanford, white farmer, for murder in connection with the death of Sanford's wife, went on trial here today.

Although the husband and the negro were indicted jointly, the negro is being tried first.

The state charges that Mrs. Sanford's death was due to an alleged illegal operation performed by the negro doctor, with the connivance of her husband.

Ten jurors were selected today, and prospects were that the remaining two will be chosen early Saturday and testimony begun.

Following the arrest of the negro doctor, he was taken to Nashville for safekeeping and held there for some time until the intense feeling in this section quieted down.

MEMPHIS, TENN. SCIMITAR
NOVEMBER 8, 1923

FUGITIVE FIRES ON POSSE, FLEES

Wife Slayer Still at Large. Officers Trail Negro Gunman.

Stopped by a posse of six men who sought his arrest for the murder of his wife some hours previous, Robert Arnold, negro, fired five shots at the group of men surrounding him at Cordova, Tenn., Wednesday night and escaped into the underbrush after they had returned the fire.

The Memphis detective department was notified to be on the lookout for the negro as he was last seen headed toward here.

Arnold is alleged to have slain his wife Wednesday afternoon with a double-barreled shotgun. He jumped in an automobile and fled.

At Cordova a posse stopped the automobile in which he was riding in company with two negro women and ordered him to surrender. Instead, Arnold leaped from the car and opened fire on the officers.

Each of the six men emptied their revolvers at him at close range but he turned and fled. The bloodhounds under Cooney Brown, of the local police department, were hurried to Cordova and traced the desperado for some miles before they finally lost his trail where he had entered another machine.

None of the posse was wounded. It is believed that the negro was hit one or more times.

Lynchings - 1923
Side Lights.

Texas

1524

Prefers Death At Own Hands To Torture.---Plunges Blade Into Heart As Savage Mob Storms Jail.---Disperse After Recieving Word Of Prisoner Taking Own Life.

Special To The News.

Orange, Texas, April 21.—Clarence Smith, 25 years of age Negro, held in the county jail here on a charge of writing improper letters to white women of this section, committed suicide in his cell by plunging the razor-like blade of a spoon handle into his heart, Thursday night.

Smith was awakened from his sleep by the sound of jeers and cries of "lynch the nigger," that came from a savage mob that had assembled on the outside of the jail. The demand of the leader of the mob on the jailer to turn over the keys of the jail was refused. A large piece of timber was secured and as four men battered at the jail door in an effort to break it open, the din of the continuous thump of the heavy timber could be plainly heard by Smith in his cell.

The young Negro grew frantic with fear and scaled the bars of his cell, climbing the topmost round and throwing himself headlong to the concrete floor only to jump again to his feet. He pleaded with the jailer to save his life and protested his innocence of wrong doing.

PLUNGES BLADE INTO HEART

The jailer stood just outside the cell, with no effort, either by word or act to quiet the Negro. A sarcastic grin was noted on his face as he listened to the pleas of the prisoner. The mob continued to jeer the sheriff at the front of the jail and the thump, thump of the heavy timber on the jail door continued with clock-like precision.

Just when the Negro sharpened the handle of a common teaspoon like unto a razor blade and for what purpose, is not known, but in full view of the jailer and his assistant and other prisoners, Smith pulled from a secret pocket in his shirt the spoon, laid bare his left breast and plunged the keen blade of four inches into his heart. He reeled twice and fell to the concrete floor with a thud that could be heard over the jail and without uttering another word, bled to death.

MOB NOTIFIED

Word of the action of the Negro prisoner was conveyed to the sheriff who stood at the front of the jail smoking a cigar. He unlocked the prison door that was fast yielding to the battering of the mob. The sudden action in opening the door surprised the mob and quiet prevailed for a few minutes while the sheriff mounted a chair and announced that the Negro had committed suicide. The leader of the mob accompanied the sheriff to the cell to verify the report and when he returned and assured the mob that the report was true, the crowd quickly dispersed.

NEGRO MOVED AS FEELING RUNS HIGH

The Houston Post

Associated Press Report.

SWEETWATER, Texas, Aug. 14. John Smith, negro, 35, who made an alleged confession today of the slaying of J. F. Kuhn, deputy sheriff and farmer of Rowena, Texas, last night, was removed from the Nolan county jail late today to a destination which officers declined to reveal. This action was taken because of high feeling reported among members of searching parties it was announced.

The negro was arrested near Blackwell, Texas, this afternoon by Sheriff Jack Yarbrough and Deputy Jim Butler of Nolan county. He was placed in the Nolan county jail here and authorities of Runnels county were notified of the arrest. Smith was walking along a road toward Sweetwater when he was apprehended. He offered no resistance. A bloody automatic revolver, from which four shots had been fired, was taken from him. The prisoner was taken from the jail here by the sheriff after the latter had communicated with authorities of Runnels and Concho counties.

Posses began search for the negro after it was learned that Kuhn had been slain at his farm, about three miles from Rowena, following an argument over crop matters. Kuhn was shot through the head. Two Mexicans witnessed the killing. Early today all negroes were warned to leave Rowena and virtually all had left this afternoon, it was reported here.

POSSE HUNTS FOR NEGRO.

Blacks Ordered To Leave Rowena, Texas After Killing Of Farmer.

BALLINGER, Texas, Aug. 24.—Several hundred armed men today are searching Colorado River bottoms for John Smith, negro, who shot and killed J. F. Kuhn, 42, farmer and deputy sheriff, near Rowena, Runnels County, late yesterday. The men are reported to have quarreled over crops. The negro seized Kuhn's gun and killed the farmer instantly. Smith, armed with a shot gun and pistol, escaped.

Citizens at Rowena last night posted warnings for all negroes to leave there. Of the negro population only an aged woman remained in town today and she was reported preparing to leave.

Two negroes, alleged to have participated in the quarrel with Kuhn are in jail here.

NEGRO KIDNAPED, WITNESS SAYS; SEARCH STARTED

The Houston Post

Police On Trail of Two Cars Loaded With White Men

Houston, Texas

Police were searching at midnight Saturday for two automobile loads of white men who, it is alleged, drove up behind Sam Bowden, negro, 2711 Sterrett street, at Cline and Gregg streets at 10:30 p. m. and snatched him from the machine in which he was sitting.

According to a witness of the affair, a woman was riding with the negro and when the men took him from the car the woman ran up the street. She was not apprehended.

From all that can be ascertained of the kidnaping, it is believed that the negro was in the habit of picking up passengers at that point, and was possibly called there at that time.

The negro is employed by the Southern Pacific lines. The men in the car, the witness said, hit the negro several times over the head before they were able to get him in the car. After putting him in the machine, both cars headed for the Clinton road, the witness told police.

FIND NEGRO'S BODY LASHED TO TREE

SAN ANTONIO, Texas, July 14.—The body of Will Browley, negro truck driver, who disappeared two months ago, and who it was reported at the time might have been killed by bootleggers, was found Friday by Chief of Police Tom Hiner and other officers after the chief had received a letter through the mails directing him to the body.

Browley's body was found about 11 miles from the city off the Lavernia road. The body was in an upright position tied to a mesquite tree. A rope around the neck was tied around the tree, the man's hands were tied behind him and another rope secured his ankles to the tree. The head had dropped from the body.

The examination made by the detectives failed to disclose bullet wounds in the head or clothing. Whether Browley was stabbed, beaten or shot or merely tied to the tree and left to die is a mystery.

Lynchings – 1923
Side Lights.

1525

Texas.

NEGRO TALKS FREELY TODAY ABOUT SERIES OF MURDERS; "HIGH LIGHTS" OF STATEMENT

Roy Mitchell's Recital of How He Tortured and Killed Several Victims Is One of Most Sensational Stories in the Criminal History of County and State.

WACO TEX HERALD
FEBRUARY 9, 1923

Roy Mitchell, confessed murderer of four white men and one woman, and the man who held up three couples in and near Waco during the past year, two of them white, the other a negro couple, will be kept in the McLennan county jail.

This positive statement was made Friday morning by Sheriff Leslie Stegall, following the announcement earlier in the day that Mitchell had made five separate confessions. In elaborating on his determination to keep Mitchell here, Sheriff Stegall said:

"I believe the law-abiding people of Waco and McLennan county desire that the law shall take its course in this case. Horrible crimes have been committed—five fiendish murders—but the mystery that has surrounded them has been solved, and there will be no delay in the trials of the negro, after all of the details shall have been completed.

"You can make it plain—very plain—that the negro is going to be protected. This course has been determined, positively and very decisively. The negro will not be taken out of the McLennan county jail by any man or mob, and his fate will be determined by the jury that will be selected to try him," declared Sheriff Stegall.

"Let Law Take Its Course."

Following this announcement from Sheriff Stegall, the latter said Friday morning that L. A. Skipworth, father of one of the five murdered victims of Roy Mitchell, had made an earnest plea that the law be permitted to take its course.

Mrs. W. E. Holt, widow of Ed Holt, killed three weeks ago on the Springfield road, five miles east of Waco, his companion, Mrs. Ethel Denecamp, being slain at the same time, told Sheriff Stegall Friday morning that she wanted him to have the gun which belonged to her dead husband, and which was found in Mitchell's home.

This pistol has played a most important part in the evidence that has been accumulated against Roy Mitchell, and it was found in a dresser drawer in the negro's home.

Evidence Accumulated Rapidly.

From the time that Mitchell was arrested here, a week ago last Monday, evidence has been multiplying rapidly against him, to the extent where both Sheriff Leslie Stegall and County Attorney C. S. Farmer were practically certain that they had "cinched" a conviction in at least two of the crimes of which Mitchell admits he is guilty, the killing of Grady Skipworth and that of W. E. Holt and Mrs. Denecamp. They were also of the opinion that they could have connected him with the murder of Harrell Bolton, and the admission made by the negro that he shot and killed Bolton definitely disposes of this case, insofar as the name of the murderer is concerned.

Negro Very Voluble.

Before Roy Mitchell began talking to Sheriff Stegall and County Attorney Farmer, the negro was convinced that they had him "dead to rights" regarding the Skipworth and the Holt-Denecamp murders. There was no hesitancy on the part of Mitchell, once he decided to talk, said County Attorney Farmer; "as a matter of fact, he was very voluble, and the effort came in reducing to writing the numerous statements he made and the important details related by him."

The criminal philosophy displayed by the negro is marvelous, according to County Attorney Farmer, while the ingenuity he displayed in the effort he made to cover up his crimes, particularly the killing of Holt and Mrs. Denecamp, is astounding. It was, said Mr. Farmer, far beyond what one would naturally expect of a negro, and it revealed careful planning, an intimate study of details and execution that seemed well nigh perfection—until the denouement came.

The negro's philosopical viewpoint, after he knew that the officers had "the goods on him," was pertinently expressed, after he had completed his confessions, Friday morning, when he remarked:

"God messes up that which man thinks is perfect."

Robbery, Lust, Crime Motives.

Mitchell's confession as to the killing of W. P. Driskell reveals no motives, but the impelling idea for the murder of Grady Skipworth, Harrell Bolton, and W. E. Holt and the attack made on their women companions was, according to the negro's statements, robbery and lust.

Driskell was killed with an axe, the others being killed with pistols and shotguns.

Mitchell is already charged with the murder of four other white people, as follows: W. P. Driskell, May 7 of last year, at his home, 1704 Barnard street; Harrell Bolton, May 24 last, a few miles east of Waco, on the Corsicana road; Grady Skipworth, November 19 last, on Lovers' Leap in Cameron park; W. E. Holt and Mrs. Ethel Denecamp, January 19 last, five miles east of Waco, on the Springfield road.

Negro Says God Has His Soul.

"I have given my soul to God, the city will get my body," remarked Roy Mitchell, early Friday morning, after he had finished the last of his five separate confessions.

"Spiritually, I am weak," said Mitchell, when asked as to how he felt.

It has been requested by the negro that all of his relatives be permitted to see him at the jail, but Sheriff Stegall and Jailer Jesse Abbott will be very careful as to who is allowed to see him; they will take no chances with the negro, who has comfortable quarters on the first floor of the county jail. Mitchell has asked that his pastor be sent to him.

When interrogated as to why he pulled off his hunger strike in the Hill county jail, the negro declared that it came about as a result of a vision he had while in jail at Hillsboro. As was stated in these columns, Thursday, the negro broke his self-imposed fast and silence Thursday morning, and it has not been necessary to resort to forcible feeding since that time.

Friday morning, when Mitchell was seen in the county jail, he presented the appearance of one recovering from a spell of sickness. He seemed too weak to stand alone, and he was supported by two negroes as he was moved from his cell to the jailer's office for awhile.

Will Probe Murders First.

When the McLennan county grand jury is empaneled by Judge R. I. Munroe, on the first Monday in next month, it is expected that the murder charges pending against Roy Mitchell will be the first crimes to be investigated. The confession made by the negro, in the murder cases, and also in the assault to murder incidents in which he admits that he has figured, will be submitted to the county inquisitors.

Besides this, there will be the corroborative evidence that has been gathered by Sheriff Stegall and his deputies and County Attorney Farmer and his staff. All of this connects him with four murders; in fact, everything that could aid the officers in any way has been unearthed, with the exception of a watch belonging to Harrell Bolton, which Mitchell claims to have given to an out-of-the-state negro, and a pistol, belonging to W. P. Driskell, which, according to the negro, was sold to a Mexican.

Negro Details Series of Crimes.

Mitchell, in confessions made to Sheriff Leslie Stegall and County Attorney Farmer early Friday morning, accepts responsibility for five murders, four assaults on women and three assaults to murder. His confessions, which were signed by him in a plain and perfectly legible hand, have cleared up mysteries that have put to the test all the detective talent in and around Waco. Abandoning his plea of innocence, of which he called upon his God to witness Thursday, the negro made a clean breast of a succession of crimes that cover a period of nearly a year.

1525

Any pretense sham and pretense were cast aside Thursday night when Mitchell was confronted with evidence of his guilt in two murders and he told a story of a succession of crimes revolting in the extreme. He recovered his voice, which seemed to have failed when he was given an opportunity by a Times-Herald representative Thursday morning to make a statement. Then he whispered a positive denial of his guilt and called God as a witness of his innocence, expressing perfect confidence that the Almighty would take care of him. When the shades of night had gathered and Sheriff Leslie Stegall and County Attorney C. S. Farmer closeted themselves with him in the office of Jailer Abbott he began to show signs of weakness.

Confronted With Evidence.

"We have got evidence enough to convict you of two of the crimes with which you are charged," the sheriff told Mitchell, "and we want to know about the others. Some of these crimes have been charged to others, and we are going to convict you of at least two of them. We want to find out whether you are willing to let innocent people suffer for what you have done. Now I am going to tell you just how you killed Will Driskell and I want you to keep quiet until I ask you to answer me."

Mr. Stegall then described the actions of the negro, as the evidence he had collected indicated.

"You hid behind the door in Driskell's garage with Driskell's axe and waited for him to come that night. When he drove in and got out of his car you struck him in the head with the axe, splitting his head open. Then you took his pistol and his money, got a quilt from the house, wrapped it about the body and hid it in the seed house adjoining the garage. Then you drove the car to a point just outside the city on the Bosqueville road and got in the ditch, where you left the car."

Mitchell assented and added:

"I did not get the pistol off his person. I hunted for it and took two or three dollars in money from his pocket. Then I went to the house and got Driskell's razor, a black handle one, and his shaving mug and a quilt. I wrapped the body in the quilt and dragged it to the door of the shed, opened the door and placed it in there, then took some of the cotton seed and covered up the blood where Driskell had fallen in the garage. I had not yet found the pistol and I wondered where it was. When I moved the car I discovered the pistol under it. He must have had it in his hand when I struck him and it was thrown under the car by the impact. I drove the car out Fifteenth street, turning into Eighteenth on Herring and out of the city. I intended to park it in the cedars, but changed my mind after reaching a point on the Bosqueville road near the Primm place. I decided to bring it back to town, but in attempting to turn I backed into the ditch and could not get the

car out. I left it there and walked all the way home. I was afraid to catch a street car, because I had Driskell's gun, both pistol and shotgun, and the other things and I did not want anybody to see me with them."

Admits Holt and Skipworth Murders.

Sheriff Stegall then confronted Mitchell with evidence of his connection with the Skipworth and Holt murders and he admitted he had committed both crimes. He said he was hidden behind the pavilion at Lovers' Leap that night, November 20, when Grady Skipworth and Miss Naomi Boucher drove up. He watched them awhile and then slipped around behind the car, and as the boy got out of the car he shot him with a single barrel shotgun. He made the girl get out and go with him to the cliff as he dragged the body and threw it over. He then made her go back with him to the car, get in, and he followed, driving to the point where the three hunters approached. He had gotten out of the car and taken the cushion and his overcoat, placing them on the ground. When the hunters appeared he stopped them and then, re-entering the car, drove to the pavilion on the bank of the Brazos river.

"There I took the girl out of the car and we proceeded up the river on top of the bluff, walking along a path. Finally I stopped and mistreated the girl, then she broke away from me and ran. I followed her, but she ran off the bluff and I abandoned the chase. I drove the car to the place where it was found the next morning. I got $1.36 from Skipworth's pockets, also his watch and chain."

Mitchell confessed to shooting William Cottrell and Mrs. Marjorie Sheffield on the night of May 17, 1922. He said after shooting the man he heard a car approaching and, shooting the woman, he darted into the brush. Both of these parties recovered.

He also said he held up a negro man and woman early in January, driving the man from the car and assaulting the woman. This was in the south part of the city. A few days thereafter he attacked a white man and woman on South Twelfth street. He jumped on the running board of the car with a shotgun and demanded that they turn and drive away from the city. The woman was driving toward town and stepped on the gas. The man grabbed the gun and in the scuffle both barrels were discharged. Then he jumped off and ran away. He lost his cap in the car and he heard it had been identified as his cap. The cap was shown him and he acknowledged it was his property.

Tells of Double Murder.

The negro detailed the particulars of the double murder of Holt and Mrs. Denecamp. He had seen them drive out the little cross road that runs between the Springfield road and the Marlin road five miles out. He followed and soon came upon them. He killed Holt, and, taking the car and the woman, drove to a point near where the bodies were found in a secluded spot, where the woman was twice assaulted. Then he shot her to death. He left her lying there on the ground and drove to town. After reaching the city, he decided to return and remove Holt's body from the road to a more secluded place, where it would not be so easily discovered. He had difficulty finding the body, but succeeded at last, and tying it to the car, dragged it to where he had left the body of the woman. He took her body in the car and, driving to the spot where they were found, placed them side by side, and left them there. He then drove to the city and left Holt's car on Eighth street between Austin avenue and Washington, where it was found the next day.

The statement of Mitchell that he killed Mr. and Mrs. Barker and Homer Turk was not reduced to writing by County Attorney Farmer. The negro did not go into details, only admitting that he had committed the deed, and Mr. Farmer is not inclined to give his statement much credence. He will be questioned further about this crime.

It will be remembered that two negroes, Cooper Johnson and Bennie Young, were tried and adjudged guilty by juries of the murders of the Barkers and the boy at Concord. Johnson was given the death penalty and Young was sent to the penitentiary for 99 years. Both cases are on appeal, the firm of Garrett and Sheehy being their attorneys.

Negro Burned in Bolton Crime.

Jesse Thomas, a negro service car driver, was killed a few days after the Bolton murder and a mob burned the body. The negro was picked up by a private citizen and taken to the house where lived the woman companion of Bolton. She had described her assailant of the night of May 25, 1922. Thomas suited the description, the man thought, and when he was taken before her she declared he was the guilty party. Her father, who was present, began shooting the negro and he ran, but fell dead in the yard, riddle with bullets. Police arrived after the negro was dead and removed the body to the undertaking establishment of L. C. Puckett, where it was being prepared for burial, when a mob gathered, secured the body, took it to the city hall square and burned it to a crisp. The skeleton was then dragged through the negro quarter and along other streets until the crowd had dwindled to a few boys. Constable Stegall, now sheriff, and his deputies arrested the boys and delivered the skeleton to an undertaker.

At the moment that Thomas was being killed Detective R. H. Hall and Probation Officer F. A. Craven were en route to the home of the victim of the Bolton attack with Roy Mitchell, the now confessed murderer of the young man, believing that they had the guilty party. Hearing the shots, they approached carefully, and arriving near enough to ascertain what had happened, they returned with their prisoner, intending to place him in jail. A mob had surrounded the county bastile, and seeing the futility of trying to fasten the crime on Mitchell after another had been identified as the guilty one, they released Mitchell.

GETS DEATH PENALTY IN FIVE CASES

Roy Mitchell Sentenced to Gallows for Murders of Citizens in Texas

Waco, Tex., April 6.—Roy Mitchell, who received his fifth and final sentence to hanging last Friday when he was found guilty of the murder of Harrell Bolton, in May, last year, was in jail with eight other complaints against him.

None of the eight complaints is for murder, however, and in none of them has an indictment been returned by the grand jury. The nature of the remaining charges vary from attempted murder to criminal assault and there is doubt among county officials that he will be tried for them, even if indictments are voted by the grand jury.

Would Ask Appeal

Mitchell, following the trial when the jury deliberated longest of any that has tried him—10 minutes—before reaching its murder verdict, indicated that he desired to appeal the case, but Judge Munroe informed him that court was not in session then and that he would have to take that up later.

No motion for a new trial has been filed in the four previous cases, the slaying of W. E. Holt, Mrs. Ethel Denecamp, Grady Shipworth and W. H. Driskell. In the event that Mitchell decides to appeal his case, County Attorney C. F. Farmer said he will file motion with the court of criminal appeals, asking that body to advance the cases against Mitchell on the docket.

The unprecedented succession of trials resulted from an expressed determination by city and county authorities to clear up through the courts all unsolved murders in and about Waco in the past year, together with minor crimes.

Summary justice by lynchings and shooting was decried by the authorities and an appeal by the mayor to "let justice take its course through the court" was heeded by the citizens here, who gathered at the jail at the time of Mitchell's arrest.

Signs Confession

Rangers had been rushed from Austin and special deputies were stationed in all quarters of the jail. Mitchell, as an extra precaution, was spirited away to another county. When he was brought back to Waco he signed a written confession to all the crimes, according to county officials.

The county attorney's record of securing the death penalty in five successive murder trials, all against the same man, was commented on by court officials as probably being unequaled by any public prosecutor in the country. Only one of the trials lasted longer than one day; that one lasted two days.

The indictment voted against Mitchell charging him with the murder of Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Barker and 13-year-old Homer Turk at Concord presents an unusual legal aspect, attorneys declare. Cooper Johnson and Benny Young were convicted of the triple murder. Johnson was given the death penalty and Young a life sentence.

Negro Sentenced To Hang 5 Times In Two Weeks

Atlanta Constitution

Negro Faces Jury Five Times and Draws Death Penalty Each Time.

4/1/23

Waco, Texas, March 31.—Roy Mitchell, negro, who received his fifth and final sentence to hanging last night when he was found guilty of the murder of Harrell Bolton, in May last year, was in jail today with eight other complaints charged against him.

None of the eight complaints is for murder, however, and in none of them has an indictment been returned by the grand jury. The nature of the remaining charges vary from attempted murder to criminal assault and there is doubt among county officials today that the negro will be tried for them, even if indictments are voted by the grand jury.

Mitchell, following yesterday's trial when the jury deliberated the longest of any that has tried him—ten minutes—before reaching its murder verdict, indicated that he desired to appeal the case, but Judge Munroe informed him that court was not in session then and that he would have to take that up later.

No motion for a new trial has been filed in the four previous cases, the slaying of W. E. Holt, Mrs. Ethel Denecamp, Grady Shipworth and W. H. Driskell. In the event that Mitchell decides to appeal his case, County Attorney C. F. Farmer said he will file motion with the court of criminal appeals, asking that body to advance the cases against the negro on the docket.

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NEGRO ARRAIGNED FOR WACO KILLING

Houston Post
Houston Tex.

Associated Press Report.

WACO, Texas, March 8.—When Roy Mitchell, negro, was formally arraigned today on charges of killing W. E. Holt and Mrs. Ethel Denecamp on January 19, 1923, District Judge R. I. Munroe ordered a plea of not guilty entered, and appointed three attorneys to represent the defendant at his trial on March 15. 3/9/23

Mitchell told the court he expected an attorney to be retained by the "colored people and my white friends." He said $709 had been raised for his defense, but the lawyer his friends had in mind wanted $1000 to defend him.

As he was being led back to his cell, Mitchell halted and asked the court why he could not be protected "by having rangers at my trial" as "they've done for other people."

Judge Munroe replied that "we'll cross that bridge when we get to it."

Mitchell has confessed, according to county officials, that he shot Holt, assaulted Mrs. Denecamp, Holt's companion on an automobile ride, and then killed the woman. He also has confessed to three other murders, according to officers.

Lynchings—1923
Side Lights.

Texas.

1508

The Saturday Herald
Clarendon Texas
2-17-23







MAN KILLS SELF AS TEXAS MOB PLANS LYNCHING

Clarendon Texas

ORANGE, TEX., April 27.—Apparently inbued with a desire that the "fair" name of Texas would not be tarnished with another mob violence in its long list of lawlessness, Clarence Smith, aged 25 years, is said to have slashed his throat and stabbed himself above the heart while a howling mob clamored for his body outside of the jail here Thursday night. It is said that Smith had been accused of writing improper letters to white women in this section. 4-28-23

When a few members of the mob came from the back of the jail and reported to the mob leaders that he had killed himself in his cell, the mob was quieted and soon dispersed upon the advice of the mob leaders.

NEGRO WILL SOON BE IN WACO JAIL

Sheriff Stegall Plans to Bring Roy Mitchell Here At An Early Date.

WACO TEX HERALD
FEBRUARY 5

As soon as the weather clears, Roy Mitchell, negro, charged in complaints here with killing of four white people, will be brought back to Waco, according to Sheriff Leslie Stegall's present intentions. As was stated in Sunday's Times-Herald, the negro is in jail in Hillsboro, where he has been since last Tuesday morning, when he was taken to Hill county by Sheriff Stegall and Deputy Sheriff George Jackson.

On instructions from Sheriff Stegall, forcible feeding of the negro, who has refused to eat, drink or talk, began at Hillsboro, Sunday, when a quart of sweet milk was administered to him. When Mitchell is brought back to Waco—and this will be done so that he can be kept under observation by Sheriff Stegall—he will be fed forcibly, so long as he persists in his present intention of refusing to take nourishment.

The negro up to now has made no statement relative to the four crimes with which he is charged the murders of W. P. Driskell, Grady Skipworth, W. E. Holt and Mrs. Ethel Denecamp. Sheriff Stegall has secured evidence that connects him very strongly with all four of these killings.

Won't Hurry Examining Trials.

So long as the negro can be kept alive by forcible feeding—and this can be continued for some time—County Attorney C. S. Farmer will not be in any hurry to set the dates for the examining trials for Mitchell. The grand jury meets on the first Monday in March and unless something unforeseen develops, the negro, it is believed, can be kept alive until the inquisitors have had time to investigate the evidence that has been accumulated against Mitchell.

As already stated in these columns, District Judge R. I. Munroe has declined to convene a special grand jury to probe the cases against Mitchell, since he doubts his authority to take this course, with the present session of his court in mid-term.



"A powerful negro jumped out of the darkness onto the runboard. He carried a shotgun. . . . The man seized the barrel of the gun and inted it downward just as it was discharged."

At the left, Miss Naomi Boucher, whose escort was thrown over Lover Leap cliff and killed. She narrowly escaped death by catching hold some bushes when she was thrown over at the same point. In the cente Lovers' Leap. At the right, Sheriff Leslie Stegall, who solved the series of mysterious murders.

Fiend Confesses Series of Horrible Killings; Troops Held Ready

Chicago Defender - Chicago, Ill. 2-17-23

Waco, Texas, Feb. 16.—The police department and the local militia were mobilized here to defend the jail in the event of an attack on the part of the whites to seize Roy Mitchell, charged with eight murders. Excitement ran high when it was learned that Mitchell had signed a confession.

Confronted with the evidence of his guilt in two murders and convinced that he could no longer successfully feign insanity, Mitchell acknowledged that he had committed eight murders and three assaults in and around this city, thereby solving mysteries of almost a year's standing. The crimes confessed to were as follows:

Murder of W. H. Barker and his wife and Homer Turk, all white, at Concord, nine miles east of the city, Feb. 12, 1922. W. P. Driskell (white) May 7, 1922. Harrell Bolton (white) May 25, 1922. Grady Skipworth (white) Nov. 20, 1922. W. E. Holt and Mrs. Ethel Denecamp, both white, Jan. 19, 1923.

On May 17, 1922, Mitchell said he shot a man and woman who were driving in Cameron park, but was frightened away before he finished the murder and both recovered. A few days later he attempted to hold up a white man and his woman companion in South Waco, jumping on the running board of the car with a shotgun and demanding that they drive out of town.

Cook Is Cause.

Mitchell says a woman who was cooking for Driskell was the cause of the murder of Driskell. Mitchell was living with the woman at the time. He laid in wait for his victim in the latter's garage and when he drove in about 10 o'clock on the night of May 7, Mitchell split his head open with an ax. Driskell had his pistol, a .45 caliber in his hand when he struck him and the gun was thrown under the car by the impact. He took Driskell's money, two or three dollars, from his pocket, went to the house, got a quilt, wrapped it about the body and, dragging it to a seed house adjoining, concealed it. He had taken several articles from the house and placing them in the car took the ax to a hydrant in the yard, washed the blood from it and placed it where he had found it.

He pushed the car out of the garage and found the pistol. He drove three miles north and ditched the automobile. It was found there the next day.

Shot Bolton.

He was lurking in the vicinity of the Bolton murder when the couple drove up and stopped. He shot Bolton three times with the Driskell pistol, took the woman from the car, assaulted her and left her to make her way to shelter.

He was hidden behind the pavilion when Grady Skipworth and Miss Naomi Boucher drove up near Lover's Lean. He watched them a few minutes then sneaked around back of the car as Skipworth got out on the ground. He shot and killed the boy and dragged his body to the cliff and threw it over. He then took the girl in the car to a secluded place, forced her to accompany him to a point some distance from the car where he assaulted her twice. He says he did not throw her off the cliff but that she ran off trying to escape.

Mitchell said he saw Holt and Mrs. Denecamp drive out into a cross road on the night of January 19, and followed them. When he came upon them he shot Holt and entering the car drove to the spot where both bodies were found, and after assaulting the woman twice, shot her to death. He drove to town, but thinking that he had best go back and conceal the body of Holt, drove back to the scene of the first attack. He had difficulty finding the body but succeeded and dragging it to the place where he had left the woman, placed it beside her and drove back to town, parking Holt's car almost in the center of the business district, where it was found the next day.

Two Others Convicted

Two men were tried and convicted for the murder of Mr. and Mrs. Barker and the Turk boy at Concord. One was given the death penalty and the other a life term in the penitentiary. Cooper Johnson received the death penalty and Bennie Young the life term. Their cases are pending on appeal.

Mitchell will be kept in jail here according to Sheriff Stegall, who does not fear violence. He has taken necessary precautions for protecting Mitchell should any attempt be made to mob him.

One Lynched.

Jesse Thomas, a mulatto, was killed soon after the murder of Harrell Bolton in May, 1922, and his body was burned to a crisp and then the skeleton was dragged through the streets by a mob. Thomas had been picked up by a private citizen believing he suited the description of her assailant by Miss Harris, Bolton's companion. When he was taken to the house she declared he was the guilty party and her father shot him to death. Police took the body to an undertaker's and the mob gathered, taking the body, dragging it to the public square and burning it.

WACO NEGRO NOW FACING THIRTEEN CRIMINAL CASES

Houston Post Houston, Tex.

Four Charges Added on Eve of Trial; Rangers On Hand

3/15/23

WACO, Texas, March 14.—Four additional indictments were returned by the McLennan county grand jury today against Roy Mitchell, negro, held in jail here in connection with a series of murders and assaults during the past year. Mitchell now faces 13 indictments. Today's bill charges criminal assault, two attempted criminal assaults and assault to murder. Previously the negro had been indicted on five murder charges, three criminal assaults and one assault to murder.

AUSTIN, Texas, March 14.—Captain Frank Hamer with a detachment of Texas rangers was ordered today to proceed to Waco for duty during the trial beginning Thursday of Roy Mitchell, for the alleged slaying in January of W. E. Holt.

The order was issued by Adjutant General T. D. Barton on request of Waco and McLennan county officials, who said that while no violence was expected in connection with the negro's trial, they wished to take precautionary measures. After his trial for the alleged slaying of Holt, Mitchell will be tried on another indictment charging the murder of Mrs. Ethel Denecamp, companion of Holt at the time of his death. Mitchell also is under indictment on three other murder charges.

INDICT NEGRO ON NINE CHARGES

Houston Post Houston, Tex.

WACO, Texas, March 6.—Nine indictments, six of which charge murder and three allege criminal assault upon women, were returned by the McLennan county grand jury today against Roy Mitchell, negro, held in jail here.

3/7/23

The true bills charge that Mitchell killed W. P. Driskell, Harrell Bolton, Grady Skipworth, W. E. Holt and Mrs. Ethel Denecamp, all of whom were slain in and near Waco within less than a year.

The negro has signed confessions to these murders, according to county officers. He also is charged with killing Tony Alessandro on January 10, 1922, and assaulting three women who were with Bolton, Skipworth and Holt the night they were killed.

Mitchell will be placed on trial March 15 for the slaying of Holt and Mrs. Denecamp, who met death while riding in a park on the night of January 19, 1923.

After shooting Holt the negro assaulted and later killed Mrs. Denecamp, County Attorney C. S. Farmer says Mitchell admitted in his alleged confessin.

JURY SELECTED TO TRY TEXAS NEGRO

Montgomery Advertiser

WACO, TEXAS, March 15.—A jury in the case of Roy Mitchell, negro, charged with the slaying of W. E. Holt, here, in January, was completed today. The state then announced that the confession alleged to have been made by Mitchell in which officers say he admitted killing Holt and Mrs. Ethel Denecamp would be offered in evidence The taking of testimony will begin tomorrow.

3-16-23

Mitchell faces 13 charges brought in grand jury indictments and according to officers he has confessed to 12 of them. The indictments cover five murder charges, three alleging criminal assault on women; two assault to murder; one criminal assault and two alleging attempted criminal assault.

The Holt charge is the first one against the negro.

Texas rangers sat on either side of the defendant today, flanked by county peace officers.

NEGRO REPUDIATES MURDER CONFESSION

Atlanta Constitution

3-18-23

Waco, Texas, March 17.—Roy Mitchell, negro on trial charged with the murder of W. E. Holt, to which he recently signed a confession and admitted four other murders at or near Waco during the last year today repudiated the admissions. Mitchell testified he had been mistreated in Hill county jail and that he made the confessions after County Attorney C. S. Farmer had promised him that he would "not hang" if he would "come clean" and clear up the crimes.

Mitchell testified that County Attorney Farmer, Sheriff Stegall and Deputy Sheriff Jackson visited him in jail at Hillsboro that a physician was summoned and asked to examine him to ascertain if he was "crazy." He said water was thrown in his face, pins were stuck in him, burning matches were applied and his hair jerked out. Mitchell testified that on one occasion he was weak and fell out of a chair and that the county jailer kicked him on the nose, making the wound which caused the scar still on his nose.

Lynchings - 1923
Side Lights on,

1507

Texas

HOLT'S PISTOL IS FOUND IN NEGRO'S HOME

WACO TEX HERALD
JANUARY 30, 1923

Officers Disposed to Link Recent Murder Mysteries and Seek to Connect Negro Suspects—Rope Like That Used to Drag Holt Is Found.

Two negroes, arrested Monday afternoon by Sheriff Leslie Stegall and his deputies, are charged by complaint as being responsible for the murder of W. E. Holt and Mrs. Ethel Denecamp, five miles from the city, near the Springfield road, Friday night, January 19. Roy Mitchell is the negro charged with the murder of Holt, and Arthur Polsteal is charged with killing Mrs. Denecamp.

The arrests were made by Sheriff Stegall and his deputies late Monday afternoon, and the ecidence accumulated by the officers both before and after their arrest caused them to take their prisoners away from the city as a precaution at an early hour Tuesday morning. First reports were that the two negroes had been taken to Dallas, but the Dallas county sheriff told newspaper men who made inquiry that they had not been placed in jail there. Sheriff Stegall returned to Waco at 10 o'clock Tuesday morning and stated that he had placed the negroes in jail in another county, but did not care to name the place.

A pistol which was identified as the property of Holt was found in the home of Mitchell; also a scabbard which the pistol fit was found hidden in the flue of the house. In this flue was also found concealed a rope which corresponds with that found tied around Holt's leg when his body was found.

Sheriff Stegall also found at Mitchell's house a shotgun, the shells of which correspond with those found at the scene of the murder.

The marks on Holt's body, and the badly torn condition of his clothes, bore unmistakable evidence that his body had been dragged for some distance, evidently tied behind an automobile. Officers say the rope found concealed in Mitchell's home is the same as that taken from Holt's leg.

Mitchell is a yellow negro with gold filled front teeth, speaks good language and he resides with his wife on Jefferson avenue in the six hundred block. Sheriff Stegall has from the beginning of the tragedies near the city worked on the theory that a negro had committed the crimes. His suspicions finally during the past week were directed to Mitchell and he acted promptly. Searching Mitchell's home, he found a pistol, a Colt's double action .45 army model, suiting the description of the pistol described to him as belonging to Holt. A brother of the murdered man was sent for and asked where his brother had purchased his pistol. He said he had bought it from L. Fred and was dispatched to the Fred store on Austin avenue to obtain the number of the gun sold to Holt. He secured the number and returning to the sheriff's office young Holt was shown for the first time the pistol that had been taken from the negro's house. He recognized it instantly. Then the numbers were compared and were exactly the same. The negro acknowledged when arrested that the pistol belonged to him and said he stole it from an automobile in a garage on Franklin avenue several months ago. He stoutly denied any connection with the murder.

Damaging Evidence Found.

Further search of Mitchell's house disclosed additional evidence pointing to him as the guilty party. A piece of rope four or five feet long was found hanging concealed in a flue in the house. Sheriff Stegall had the rope taken from the leg of W. E. Holt when his dead body was found. Evidence showed that Holt had been dragged from the point where he was killed to the point where his body was found and when the murderer left the bodies he cut the rope, leaving that part of it tied around the ankle. The short piece was compared with that found in the negro's house and it suited exactly. At the bottom of the flue where it rests on the ground a pistol scabbard was found. It fitted the pistol found in the house.

Two Other Negroes Held.

When Mitchell was taken into custody Charles Wilson and Arthur Polsteal, his brothers-in-law, were detained also. Polsteal was taken with Mitchell, Wilson is in jail here. It is not believed that either of these negroes had any direct connection with the crime. They are held, however, while the details of the case are being worked out in order to be sure of their testimony when needed. Mitchell and Polsteal will be kept apart.

Sheriff Stegall and Deputy Phil Hobbs arrested Mitchell, Hobbs apprehended Wilson and Stegall secured Polsteal. Deputies I. Mack Wood and Walter Willis have been working on the case along with the others night and day.

Negro Removed to Prevent Violence.

Sheriff Stegall remembered that some months ago Mitchell was in a shooting scrape near the city and when he ascertained where Mitchell lived he began the investigation. It has been going on for several days but not until Monday did he secure evidence enough to warrant his arrest. Many incidents figured in the tracing of circumstances that pointed to the negro. The officers shrewdly kept him in ignorance of their suspicions until ready to act. The pistol was the strongest evidence they had when they made the arrest, but when they found the rope also and it fitted to the rope tied on Holt's leg the sheriff at once prepared to take his prisoner away as a precaution against violence by knowledge of the arrest and the evidence secured against the prisoner.

Other Mysteries May Be Solved.

The negro now under arrest charged with the murder of Holt and Mrs. Denecamp tallies with the description of the negro who killed Harrell Bolton last May and Grady Skipworth November 20, 1922. Bolton was shot to death in his automobile on the night of May 25, 1922, six miles out of town, and his young woman companion assaulted. The woman said it was a negro of light color with gold filled front teeth. A few days after the murder a negro suiting the description was taken before the woman, identified, and was shot and killed by her father in the house. A mob gathered and burned the body.

On the night of November 20, 1922, Grady Skipworth was murdered and his body was thrown over the cliff at Lover's Leap in Cameron park. His companion, Miss Naomi Boucher, was taken to a secluded place. Skipworth's murderer, according to the statement of the girl, assaulted her and threw her over another cliff. She said he was a yellow negro with gold filled teeth. Miss Boucher identified Ivory Clay as her assailant and the murderer of Skipworth but Clay after habeas corpus hearing last week was discharged.

Cap May Prove Important Clue.

That Mitchell may be connected with an incident that occurred ten days or two weeks before Mrs. Denecamp and Holt were murdered seemed apparent Tuesday morning, after the two brothers-in-law of Mitchell, Charles Wilson and Arthur Polsteal, had identified a cap in the possession of Sheriff Stegall as being the property of Mitchell.

While a white couple were auto riding on South Twelfth street, not far beyond Rosemound cemetery, a negro darted out from the side of the road and leaped into the car and on the back seat. The negro had a shot gun in his hand and pointed at the head of the white man in the car. At this time something occurred to direct the negro's attention and he turned his head aside for an instant. When he did, the white man pushed the barrel of the gun aside, jumped over the front seat into the rear of the car and tackled the negro. One barrel of the gun was discharged during the scuffle, that charge going through the top of the car. The other barrel of the gun later went off, scattering bullets through the running board.

As the white man was about to best the negro, the latter told the white man that he had a pistol and would kill him unless he, (the white man), released his hold. The woman in the car was at the wheel, and she was driving it towards town, when the negro managed to get on the running board and jumped off in to the darkness and disappeared.

Monday night the woman who was in the car when the negro pulled off his bold stunt positively identified Mitchell as the man. She saw him in jail, and the gold filling in his teeth was one of the marks by which she declared she could recognize him.

It was said that the negro dropped his cap in the car, and this is the headgear that has been identified as belonging to Roy Mitchell, arrested in connection with the slaying of W. E. Holt and Mrs. Ethel Denecamp.

Await March Grand Jury.

County Attorney Farmer and Judge Munroe conferred Tuesday concerning the matter or organizing a grand jury to investigate the Holt-Denecamp murder. The grand jury empaneled during the December term can not be called together, its legal existance expiring with the term of court. The law requires a grand jury in March, a trifle more than a month hence, and the court was inclined to wait for that time. He said, however, that he would examine the law with reference to special grand juries and if it made it mandatory on him he would of course proceed accordingly.

Action awaited investigation as to the requirements of the statute which was passed to cover emergencies.

"Terror of Cameron Park" Who by Night Dealt Out Death to Motorists in the Shady Lanes Was by Day a Seemingly Inoffensive Worker in Heart of City, Known and Trusted by Hundreds.

2/12/23

The Saturday Blade
Chicago Ill.

WACO, Texas, Feb. 22.—How Sheriff Leslie Stegall solved the series of eight mysterious murders which had precipitated a state of terror in Waco is a detective yarn of rare interest.

For these murders one man had been lynched and two await trial for murder, but Sheriff Stegall felt sure that he had not apprehended the right man, that all of these baffling crimes were the work of one and the same cunning culprit who was still at large. 2/12/23

Boasting no Sherlock Holmes knowledge and using only commonsense methods, he continued in his unrelenting search until he had his man behind prison bars—and he had confessed. Today Waco breathes easier and the hand of terror has been lifted from the outskirts of the city, so that boys and girls, children and men, no longer fear to stray from their homes after nightfall.

For nearly a year, nine months to be exact, a series of mysterious murders, which rivalled in ferocity and cruelty those of London's "Jack the Ripper," had terrorized the city, especially the people who lived in the vicinity of Cameron Park, for it was the stalking haunt of the slayer, and motoring couples who dallied and made love along its lanes and boulevards were his quarry.

Seeks Gold-toothed Mulatto.

Those who had escaped from the killer told of a powerful negro who sprang out of the darkness onto the runboard of the slow-moving car, put a shotgun against the driver's head, and commanded that the car be brought to a stop. Those who did not escape were found dead beside the road or at the foot of a bluff.

A lone man, "a yellow negro with gold in his teeth," was the cause. This unconsidered unit in the population of the Southern city had become a tremendous power for evil.

Briefly recounted, the crimes, now explained by the real murderer's confession, obtained after a long period of questioning, were the following:

W. P. Driskell, a cotton broker, was killed in his garage on the night of May 7, 1922. He apparently had stabled his car for the night when his assailant had crept up behind him and had split his head open with an ax. The body had been dragged into a stable adjoining the garage and hidden in a pile of cottonseed. The apparent purpose was robbery, as a shotgun and some clothing were missing, but no clews to the slayer were found.

Woman Attacked.

Eighteen days later, on the night of May 25th, Harrell Bolton and Mrs. Maggie Hays, a young widow, were driving slowly along a road in the Cameron Park section when a negro with a shotgun jumped onto the runboard of the car and commanded Bolton to drive the car down a secluded side road. When he had done this, the negro, according to the woman's story, deliberately killed Bolton by shooting him in the neck with the shotgun. Mrs. Hays was taken by the slayer to a thick growth of woods and brush and kept prisoner for three hours. When she escaped from her captor, she dragged herself to a road and was picked up by a passing automobile. When she related her experience to her father and officers, Waco was thrown into a furor such as only a crime by a negro against whites can cause in a Southern city.

Mrs. Hays said her assailant was "a yellow negro with gold in his teeth." Jesse Thomas, answering that description, was arrested fifteen miles from Waco and taken before the half-crazed woman, who was still suffering from the injuries and nervous shock of her terrifying experiences. She looked at him once and said, "That is the man."

Mrs. Hays' father, Sam Harris, immediately shot and killed Thomas, firing seven shots into his body.

The town was in a ferment. The negro's body was taken from an undertaking establishment to the square and thrown into a bonfire. Before it was consumed it was dragged out, a rope attached to a foot and the corpse was dragged around the square behind an automobile. Constable Stegall appeared upon the scene about this time, stopped the rioters and put the occupants of the motor car in jail. The body was buried.

Killing of Grady Skipworth.

On Nov. 20, 1922, Grady Skipworth was killed in Cameron Park and his body thrown from a bluff known as Lovers' Leap. Miss Naomi Boucher, with whom he had been riding, was held prisoner for several hours and then she, too, was thrown over the cliff. She rolled down the steep slope until her skirt caught on a shrub. She freed herself and made her way home, reaching there at 8:30 a. m. The negro left the scene in Skipworth's automobile and it was found the following day two miles from Waco.

Public feeling flared up again, and a company of Texas rangers was sent to Waco to assist in keeping peace. This band of famous State police was under command of Captain Shoemate.

Miss Boucher said her assailant was "a yellow negro with gold in his teeth." Ivory Clay, who answered this description, was arrested more than a month later, and Miss Boucher identified him as the slayer of her companion. He was committed to jail, with a strong guard, but investigations were continued. Captain Shoemate made discoveries which led him to believe that brothers of Miss Boucher had killed Grady, and he caused their arrest. Naomi Boucher was arrested as an accomplice.

South Waco Case.

While this case was engrossing public attention there occurred an attack which is known to the police as "the South Waco case." No account of it was printed, at the request of investigators. This happened Dec. 10, when a man and a woman were riding on the extension of South Twelfth street. A negro armed with a shotgun stepped to the runboard of the car. The woman was driving. The negro put the muzzle of the gun against her head and commanded her to stop the car.

Thru nervousness, or spirit, she put her foot on the accelerator instead of the brake, and the car shot forward. The man seized the barrel of the gun and pointed it downward. It was discharged and a hole torn in the floor-board. The car was on speed and some quick bargaining was done. The negro said he had a pistol in his hip pocket and that he would kill both the occupants of the car unless they slowed up. The man agreed. The woman slowed up the car and the negro jumped off, taking his shotgun. His cap, which had fallen to the floor of the car, was carried to police headquarters. The man and woman said their assailant was "a yellow negro with gold in his gleaming teeth."

With the beginning of 1923, Leslie Stegall, former constable, took over the Sheriff's office, to which he had been elected. Stegall believed with Captain Shoemate, that Ivory Clay was not the slayer of Grady Skipworth, but he did not believe, as Shoemate did, that Miss Boucher's brothers had anything to do with it.

Climax Came With Double Murder.

On pleasant nights in December and January there was not much joy riding thru Cameron Park and over the other fine roads of McLennan County, but there was some. Sporty and expensive roadsters rolled leisurely along the shady ways, each containing a couple who to an outsider must have seemed much engrossed with their own affairs. Every opportunity was given the unknown "yellow negro with gold in his teeth" to board these cars, and his reception was ready, but none of the deputy sheriffs ever was molested.

The Skipworth-Boucher case was still the one topic of discussion in Waco when the double murder of W. E. Holt and Mrs. Ethel Denecamp brought the series to its climax.

Holt, who was 45 years old, was a railroad man. He had gone for a ride on Sunday evening Jan. 21, with Mrs. Ethel Denecamp. Holt was a friend of Mrs. Denecamp's sister. Mrs. Denecamp was 25 and an exceptionally attractive woman. Her husband was in San Antonio. They did not return that night, and Monday morning Holt's roadster was found in the center of the business section of Waco, just back of the leading hotel. There were bloodstains on the floor of the car.

Searching parties immediately set out, and one of these found the bodies a hundred yards from the road and near Lovers' Leap.

Both had been slain with great brutality. Holt had been shot twice with a shotgun at short range and his face had almost been blown off. Mrs. Denecamp had been shot thru the head and body and instantly killed. Holt's body had been dragged for several hundred yards behind his car. A rope had been tied around his foot and thru the rear spring of the auto. The woman's body apparently had been transported in the car from the scene of the murder to the spot where it was found. The murderer obviously had driven the car.

Rewards offered for the arrest of the slayer or slayers now aggregated $2,750.

Most of the peace officers of the three arms in Waco thought this latest one was a white man's job, and revenge, a bootlegger's war, or rivalry at love were advanced at various times as the motive. Sheriff Stegall persisted in his belief that it was the work of the unknown "yellow negro with gold in his teeth."

After each of the crimes told of here, it was the custom of the officers to arrest all negroes to whom suspicion could attach because of their proximity to the scene, or because of their records, and to require them to account for their actions at the time the crime was committed.

One of those usually arrested was Roy Mitchell. He had one black mark against him. Eight years ago, he and another negro had had a fight with a white man. That is a bad thing for a negro to do in Texas, and marks him for many a year. Mitchell had taken to the woods after this fight, was arrested after many months, and pleaded guilty to aggravated assault and served a six-months' term in prison.

After serving his term he did his best to "live down" the old stain. His manners were good, he was deferential to his superiors, he usually had a job and worked at it. He is a yellow negro, and he has gold-filled front teeth, but there are a thousand negroes in Waco who will answer that description.

On Jan. 15, last, it would have done great violence to the intelligence of the ordinary Waco citizen who knew Mitchell, to have required the citizen to believe that Mitchell and the unknown night terror of Cameron Park were one and the same. He did not run with the anti-white crowd. He was one of those who believed that the best thing for black folks is white folks. His one offense was years old and his record was clea since that time.

His Old Attitude Remembered.

Sheriff Stegall had had some talk with County Attorney Farmer some tim before, and Farmer had mentioned th attitude of the negro, Roy Mitchell, whe he was tried years before on the charg of aggravated assault. At that tim Mitchell had advanced the theory tha attacks on white women by negro would continue as long as attacks b white men on negro women continued.

Ten days after the Holt-Denecam murders, Stegall arrested Mitchell the streets in Waco, ostensibly as a gra shooter who had escaped from a raid house the night before. Mitchell deni the charge and wanted to give bon Stegall refused him this permission, b offered to send a boy out to Mitchel house to tell his wife that Roy wou not be home that night. In this wa the sheriff learned where Mitchell live which is not always an easy thing to a certain in a Southern city. Stegall a his deputies, Jackson and Hobbs, we at once to the address given and ma a thoro search of the house.

The search for a long time was wi out result. There is a brick flue in kitchen set against the "front-roo wall. The kitchen stovepipe ente the flue. There was no stove in front room and no indication of a c nection with the flue.

Trail Grows Warm.

Stegall removed this calendar found a stove-pipe hole leading thru board wall. He felt in the hole found a nail with a rope tied to it. pulled up the rope and discovered a the end of it a six-shooter, and then th trail of the Terror of Cameron Park be gan to grow warm. The scabbard for a weapon was found in the bottom of the flue in the soot and dust.

The brick flue had been built so as to taper to smaller dimensions above the point where the cook-stove pipe entered it. Wall paper covered the chimney as well as the walls of the kitchen. In a little niche above one of the bricks Stegall found under the wall paper, a watch chain and a charm.

Stegall then caused Mitchell's brother-in-law, Arthur Posteal, to be arrested, and search of his house revealed other suspicious articles, and the task of connecting them with the unexplained murders was begun.

The two negroes were taken from Waco t a jail in another part of the State. This procedure insures safety against mob violence and also gives the officers opportunity to carry on their work unhampered by harassing writs of habeas corpus and such like instruments.

Links in Chain of Evidence.

The rope upon which the pistol was suspended in the flue was identical in size and quality with the rope found tied to Holt's foot. This was not regarded as convincing, but as interesting. The pistol was similar to the one owned by Holt. It was the same make and style—Colt's .45, double-action, army service model.

There is something of the dramatist in the good police officer. Holt's brother said the weapon had been bought at L. Fred's store. Stegall told him to go there immediately and get the number of the pistol from Fred's records. He departed. Stegall copied from the pistol its number, 621,536. Then he folded the paper so the number was concealed and laid the blank paper on his desk. Holt's brother returned with the number from the dealer's record and was told to sit down at the desk and write it upon the folded paper lying there. He did so. The paper was unfolded, and the numbers were identical, 621,536.

The cap which had been found in the car in the South Waco case was next shown to some negroes who knew Mitchell, and to a former employer of his, and all identified it as similar to one worn by Mitchell.

Watch Chain Identified.

The watch chain and charm found in Mitchell's home was next identified by Walter Skipworth, a brother of Grady, and his sister, Miss Georgia, as the property of the young man who had been killed. This is a distinctive charm, and the sister had helped to make it. Both Walter Skipworth and his sister said the ornament was the one worn by their brother the night he was killed.

The man and woman in the South Waco case who had refused to be held up were taken to see Mitchell and both identified him as their assailant.

Mitchell went on a "hunger strike" when he was placed in the Hillsboro jail and was forcibly fed with milk. On Feb. 8 he was brought back to Waco the accumulated evidence was put before him and he was asked to explain. He thereupon confessed that he had committed the Driskill, Holt, Denecamp, Skipworth and Bolton murders. He also acknowledged that the South Waco holdup had been his "job," and he told of two other holdups he had committed.

The McLennan County grand jury is to meet March 5 and an indictment is expected to issue at once and the negro will at once be put on trial.

Lynchings — 1923
Side Lights.

Virginia.

1506

A WHITE MAN JOINS CHURCH, THEN CONFESSES CRIME LAID ON NEGRO

St. Louis Argus

Blood Hounds Had Led Trail To Home Of Colored Man But No Goods Of Theft Could Be Found

Preston News Service. 2/23/23

DANVILLE, Va., Feb. 21.—About thirteen months ago Jones' store at Dry Fork was robbed. Bloodhounds were used to apprehend the thief. They went to the home of an aged Negro and stopped. This man's home was searched and none of the goods could be found and after considerable detective work watching the activities of the Negro no clews as to his guilt could be established and the case was never brought to attention of the grand jury for lack of evidence.

Recently a 'holiness revival" struck Dry Fork and several hundreds of white persons were converted. One evening last week a prominent white man came to Mr. Jones and told him that the Negro was not guilty of robbing the store last year, but that he was one of a party of three who did the robbing. He said "Jones I just had to come to tell you since I got religion my conscinece plagues me so. Please don't prosecute me or make this public as I will pay you for the goods. I cannot tell the names of the other men, but they have got religion too and maybe they will come and confess to you."

WHITE MAN CONFESSES CRIME

CHARGED TO AGED NEGRO

Baltimore Afro-American

Baltimore, Md.

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